

DC

ACTION COMICS



ACTION COMICS

20c

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

NO. 416
SEPT.
30410

STAY AWAY,
SUPERMAN!

AFTER YOU
MADE ME A
CRIPPLE, I'D
RATHER **DIE**
THAN LET YOU
SAVE ME!



'SUPERMAN, YOU
SCARE ME TO DEATH'

PLUS

METAMORPHO STRIKES AGAIN

Winners Everywhere!



Sales Leadership "Everything You Want Club"



Everyone Can Win Big Prizes or Lots of Cash Selling Personalized Christmas Cards from Free Album



COX PINTO FUNNY CAR
(with Gas Modeler's Kit)
Sell Only 14 Boxes



CHEMISTRY ACTION-LAB
Sell Only 7 Boxes



10-SPEED GENUINE RACING BIKE
Sell Only 56 Boxes



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Sell Only 7 Boxes



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"YORKY" TERRIER RADIO
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40X TELESCOPE WITH TRIPOD
Sell Only 7 Boxes



MINI HAIR DRYER
Sell Only 14 Boxes



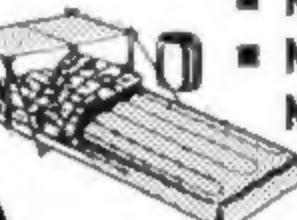
BOYS CALENDAR WATCH
Sell Only 7 Boxes

ESTES COLD FUEL ROCKET KIT
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INTERCOM TELEPHONES
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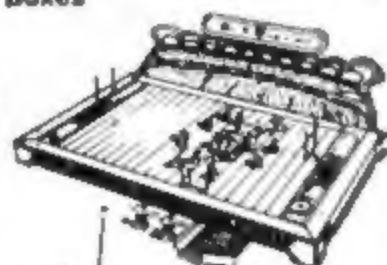
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STEREO PHONOGRAPH WITH RECORDS
Sell Only 21 Boxes



GIRLS PENDANT WATCH
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SPALDING FIELDER'S GLOVE
Sell Only 7 Boxes



TYCO LIGHTED CAR RACE SET
Sell Only 14 Boxes



WALKIE-TALKIE CODE SENDER/RECEIVER SET
Sell Only 14 Boxes



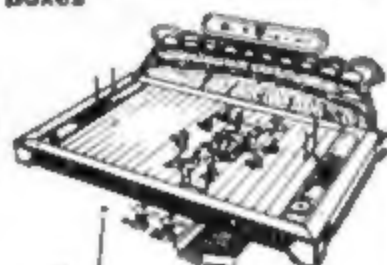
JUMBO AM/FM RADIO
Sell Only 14 Boxes



COX MUSTANG PLANE WITH ACCESSORIES
Sell Only 7 Boxes



SPALDING LEATHER FOOTBALL
Sell Only 7 Boxes



**You, too, Can Be a Sales Leader...
Get Fantastic Prizes or Lots of Cash**

Just fill in postage-free coupon and mail at once — no envelope necessary! We'll rush everything you need to start earning the prizes you choose. **ALL AT NO COST TO YOU!**

For many years thousands of Sales Leadership Club members have followed our plan to success just by showing our easy-to-carry Personalized Christmas Card Album to friends, relatives, neighbors and businessmen. The beautiful cards practically sell themselves... so you take orders at the bargain price of only \$3.50 per box, containing as many as 40 cards... each with customer's Name Imprinted!

Many valuable prizes can be yours for selling only 7 boxes. No limit to the prizes you can earn. If you prefer cash instead of a prize, just keep \$1.00 for each box sold. That's all there is to it! **GET STARTED TODAY — the PROVEN SALES LEADERSHIP WAY!**

**Life is Great When You're a Winner
Everyone Who Tries Can Win!**

JOIN THE LEADER NOW!

SALES LEADERSHIP CLUB, Springfield, Mass. 01101

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If Mailed in the
United States

Postage
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by
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SALES LEADERSHIP CLUB

Dept. 2SN-7

Springfield, Mass. 01101



Fold Over → Don't Cut! Just Seal (Paste, Staple or Scotch Tape)
Enroll me as a member. Rush FREE Membership Card, Christmas Card Album, Prize Catalog and full details on how to earn prizes or cash.

Name _____
Address _____ Apt. No. _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

SUPERMAN[®]

SOMEWHERE IN THE NORTHERN WATERS OF THE ATLANTIC, A MILLION TONS OF ICE ARE DISPERSED BY A FLYING PILE-DRIVER--SOMETIMES CALLED "THE MAN OF STEEL"...

WOW! SUPERMAN SHATTERED THAT ICE-BERG LIKE A JEWEL-CUTTER SPLITTING A DIAMOND!

A FLOATING 'BERG LIKE THAT WAS A HAZARD TO ANY SHIP PASSING BY! WE'RE LUCKY HE HAPPENED TO BE AROUND!

KRRRAAKK

BUT NOT EVERYONE ABOARD THIS OCEAN LINER IS ADMIRING THE MAN OF TOMORROW IN ACTION...

WHY DID HE HAVE TO SHOW UP?

THANK HEAVENS HE'S FLYING AWAY FROM THE SHIP...

...FAR AWAY, I HOPE--!

B-1410

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BUT...WHAT IF **SUPERMAN** DECIDES TO LAND ON THE SHIP ANYWAY? WHY DO MY INSTINCTS TELL ME OUR LIVES WILL **CLASH** IF I STAY ON BOARD?

J-JUST THE **SIGHT** OF HIM IS ENOUGH TO GIVE ME A **NERVOUS BREAK-DOWN!** IF THERE WAS ONLY SOME WAY FOR ME TO **GET AWAY** FROM HERE...

A DEWY-EYED GIRL--WHOSE CRIPPLED LEGS SHACKLE HER TO A WHEEL-CHAIR--SHIVERS **NOT** FROM THE CHILL OCEAN BREEZE -- BUT TREMBLES WITH **FEAR**, HER SOFTLY BEAUTIFUL FACE DISTORTED BY A LOOK OF **FRIGHT!**

WHY DOES SHE LIVE IN **TERROR** OF THE **CAPED CHAMPION** WHO IS HERO-WORSHIPPED BY MILLIONS? WHY DOES SHE **CRINGE** AT THE THOUGHT OF HIM?

WHY DOES SHE WHISPER UNDER HER BREATH...

**SUPERMAN,
YOU SCARE
ME TO DEATH!"**

ART: SWAN AND ANDERSON
STORY: CARY BATES

MOMENTS LATER, THE MAMMOTH LUXURY LINER PAUSES DURING ITS RETURN VOYAGE TO **METROPOLIS** AND A SLEEK **VTOL*** CRAFT LANDS ON DECK...

THERE'S THE JET...RIGHT ON SCHEDULE, CAPTAIN!

ENSIGN--GO SUMMON **CLARK KENT!** HE SHOULD BE READY TO **TAKE-OFF!** HIS CABIN IS ON **DECK 5!**

QUEEN LIZA

*EDITOR'S NOTE: VTOL--VERTICAL TAKE-OFF AND LANDING.

MEANWHILE, A BLUR OF RED-AND-BLUE STREAKS THROUGH AN OPEN PORTHOLE, FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN FOLLOW...

I SAW THE **VTOL** COME IN FOR A **LANDING...** AND THAT MEANS SOMEONE WILL BE **KNOCKING ON CLARK KENT'S DOOR...** ANY SECOND!

AN ULTRA-SWIFT CHANGE OF GARB, A PAIR OF BLACK-RIMMED GLASSES--AND THE MIGHTY **SUPERMAN** IS NOW A MILD-MANNERED REPORTER...

MR. KENT!
THE PLANE
IS READY
AND WAITING
FOR YOU!

TELL THE
CAPTAIN
I'LL BE
RIGHT UP!

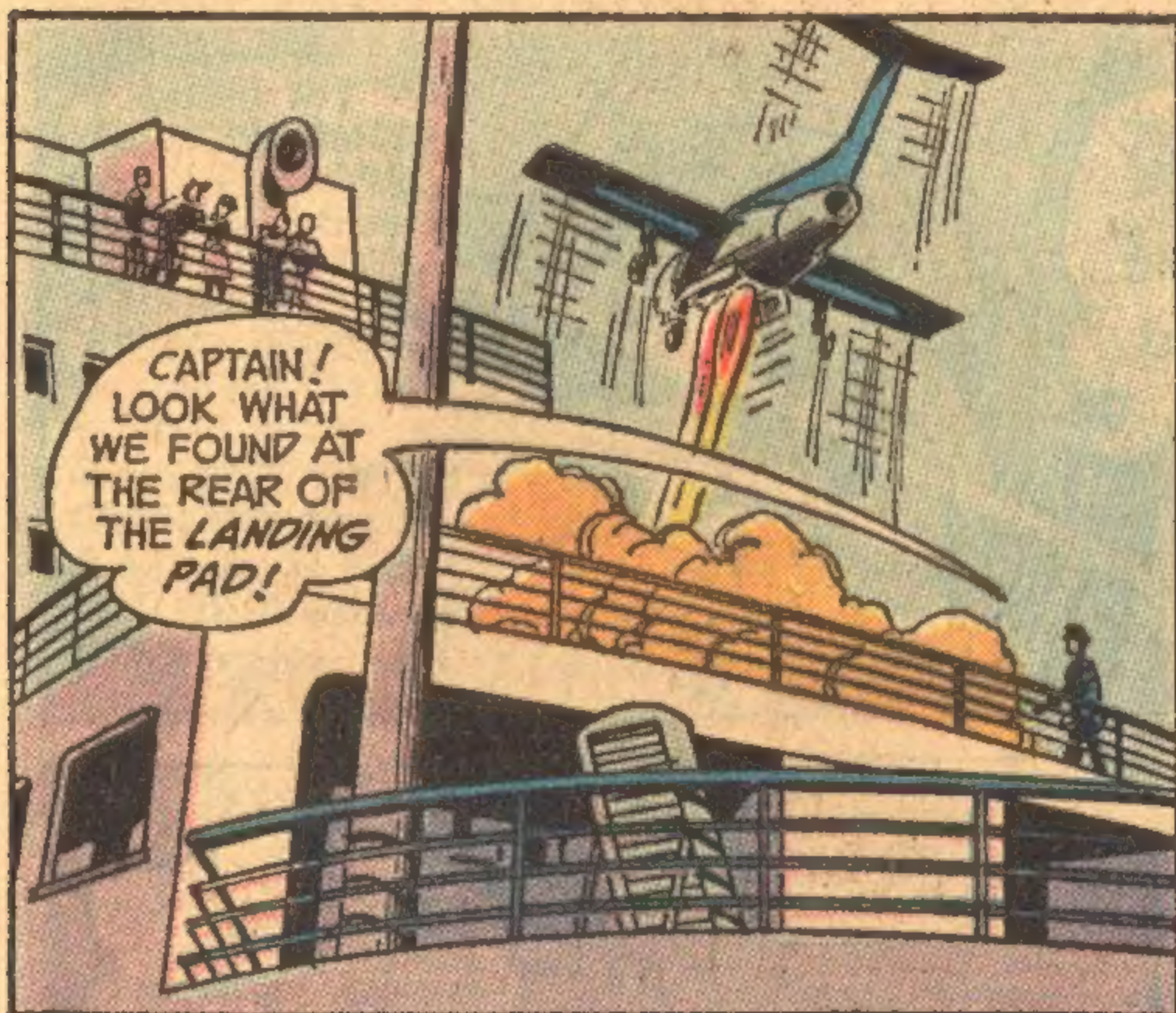
MY BOSS,
MORGAN EDGE,
DIDN'T WANT
TO GIVE UP HIS
PRIVATE JET
FOR THE
WEEKEND...
BUT I
CONVINCED
HIM I NEEDED
IT FOR A **TOP
SECRET JOB!**

SOON...

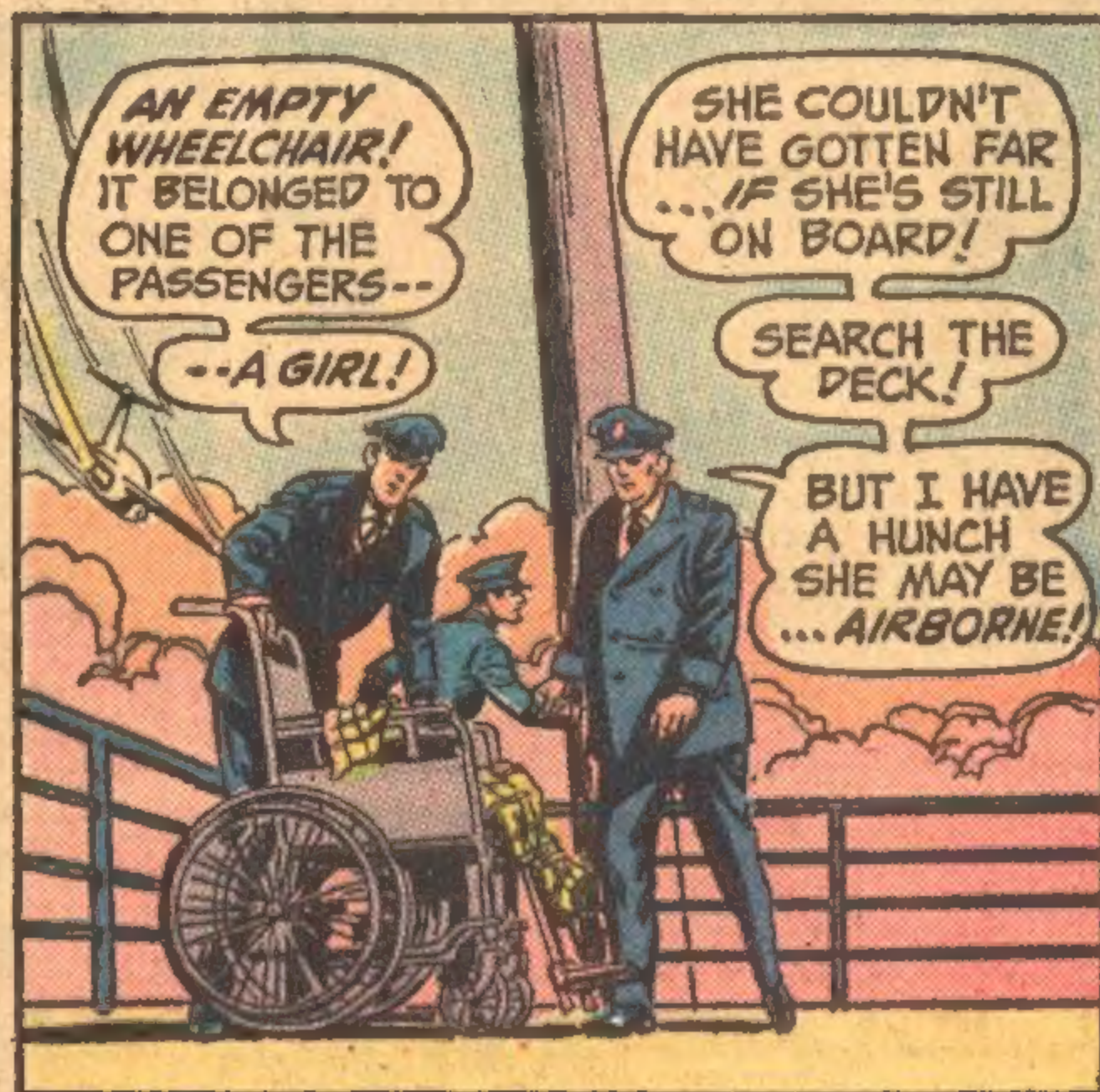
TAKE GOOD
CARE OF HER,
KENT! THAT'S
A \$400,000
PAIR OF
WINGS!

SORRY YOU
HAVE TO STAY
BEHIND! BUT
THIS IS A
**ONE-MAN
ASSIGNMENT!**

AND ONLY
THE SHIP'S
CAPTAIN
AND I KNOW
WHY THE JOB
IS SO
IMPORTANT!



CAPTAIN!
LOOK WHAT
WE FOUND AT
THE REAR OF
THE **LANDING
PAD!**



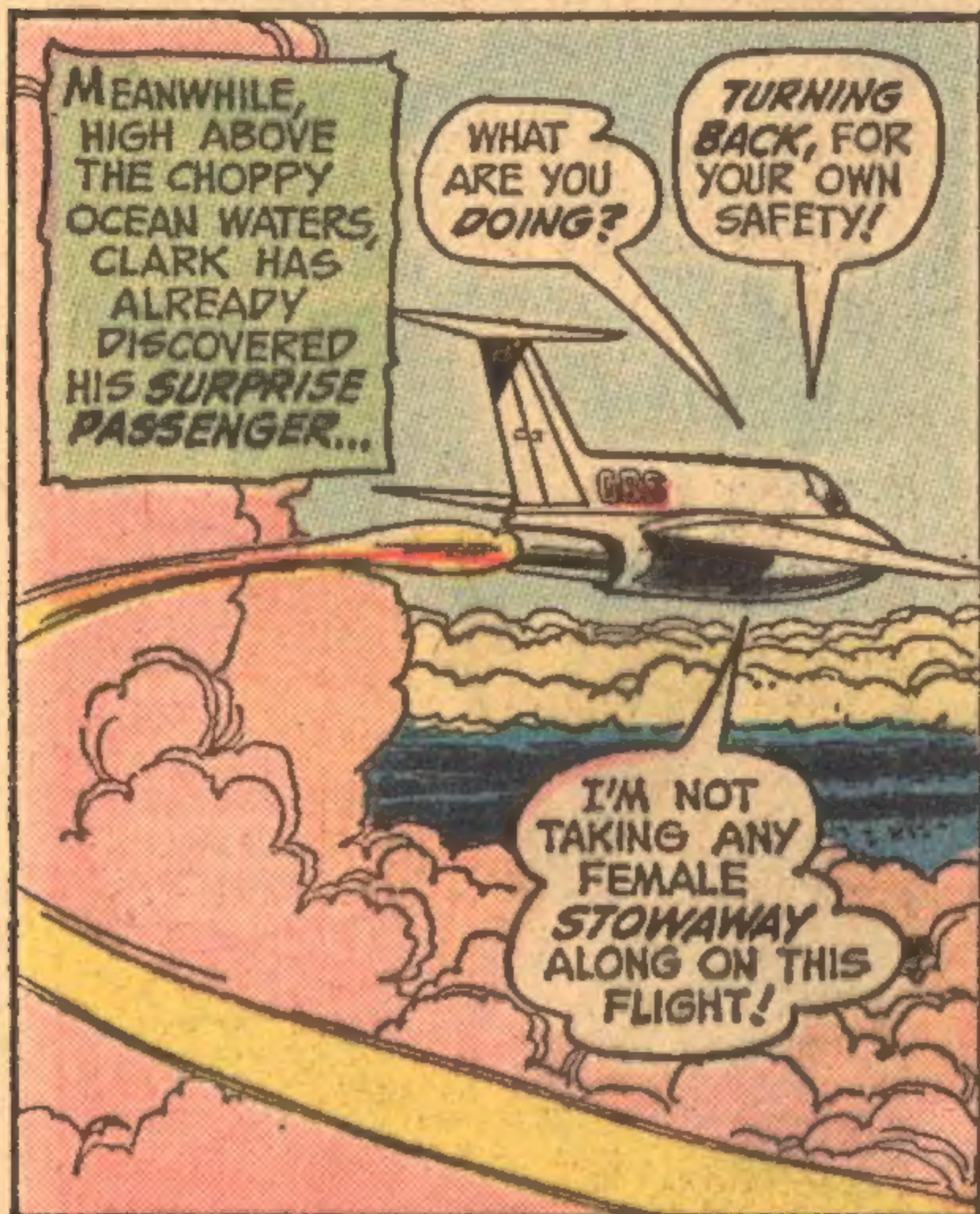
AN **EMPTY
WHEELCHAIR!**
IT BELONGED TO
ONE OF THE
PASSENGERS--

--A **GIRL!**

SHE COULDN'T
HAVE GOTTEN FAR
... IF SHE'S STILL
ON BOARD!

SEARCH THE
DECK!

BUT I HAVE
A HUNCH
SHE MAY BE
... **AIRBORNE!**



MEANWHILE,
HIGH ABOVE
THE CHOPPY
OCEAN WATERS,
CLARK HAS
ALREADY
DISCOVERED
HIS **SURPRISE
PASSENGER...**

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?

**TURNING
BACK, FOR
YOUR OWN
SAFETY!**

I'M NOT
TAKING ANY
FEMALE
STOWAWAY
ALONG ON THIS
FLIGHT!



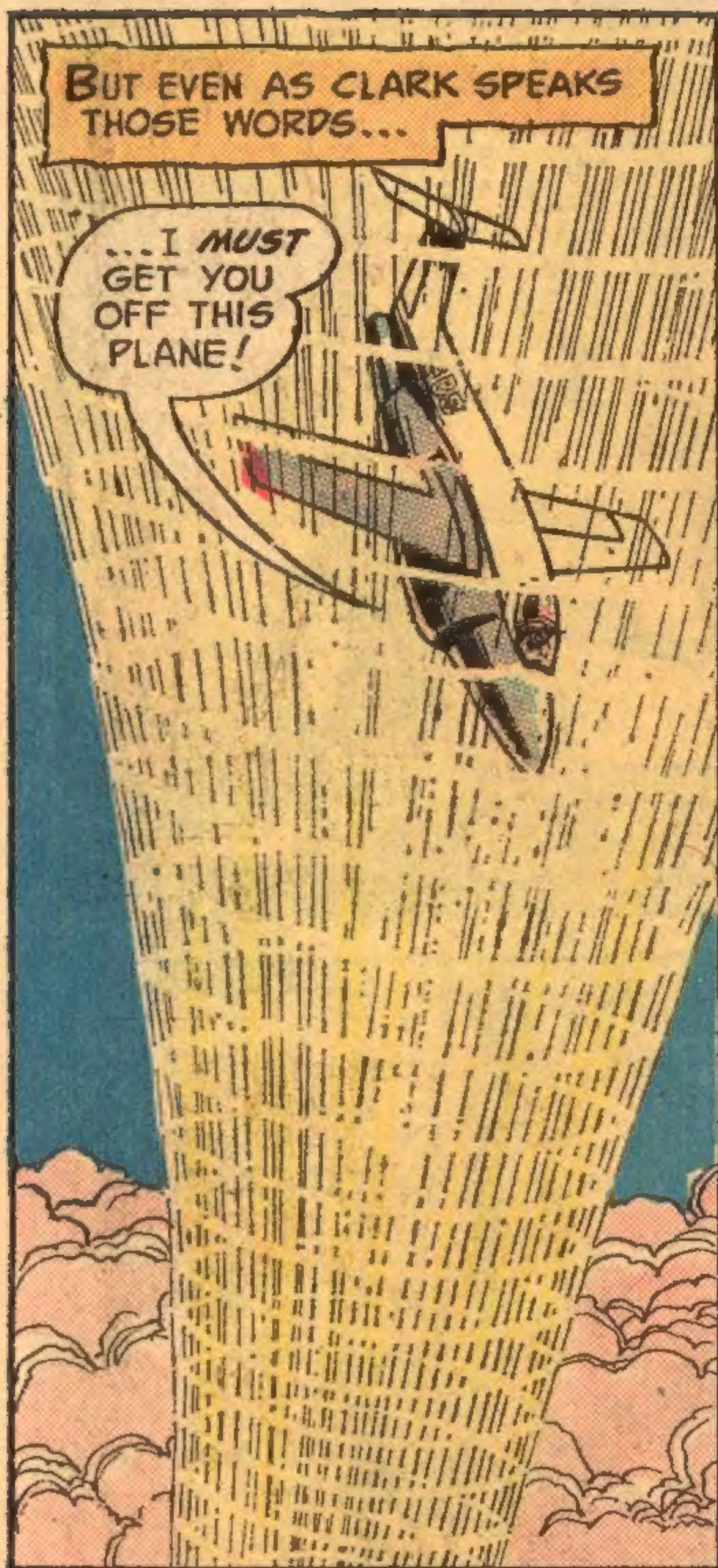
DARN!
I SHOULD'VE
KEPT QUIET!

BUT PLEASE...
**PLEASE
DON'T TAKE
ME BACK
TO THAT
SHIP!**

THERE'S...
**SOMEONE
I MUST
GET AWAY
FROM!**

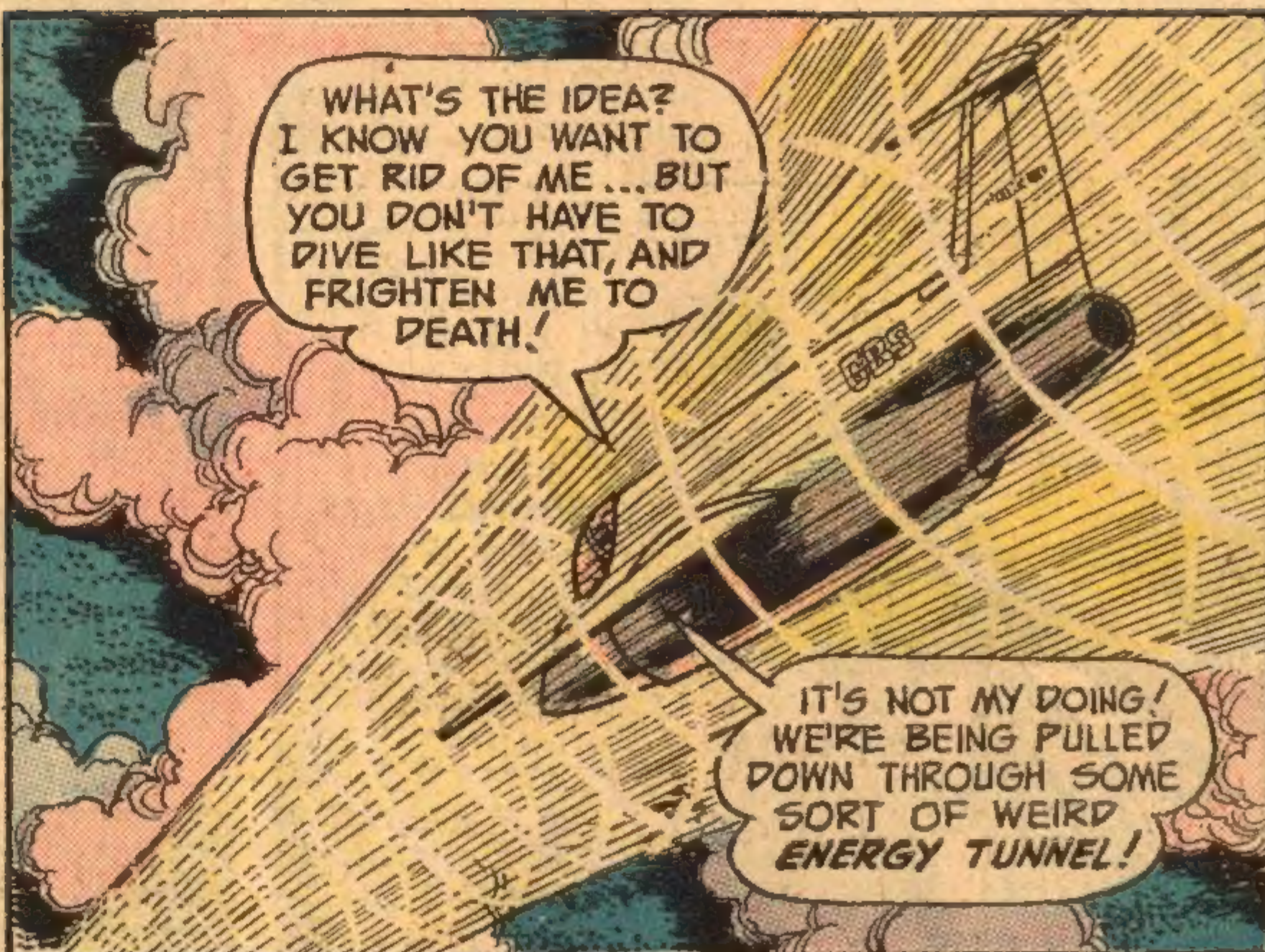
SORRY, MISS, BUT
YOU'RE IN **MORE
DANGER** UP HERE!

I **MUST** GET YOU
OFF THIS PLANE!



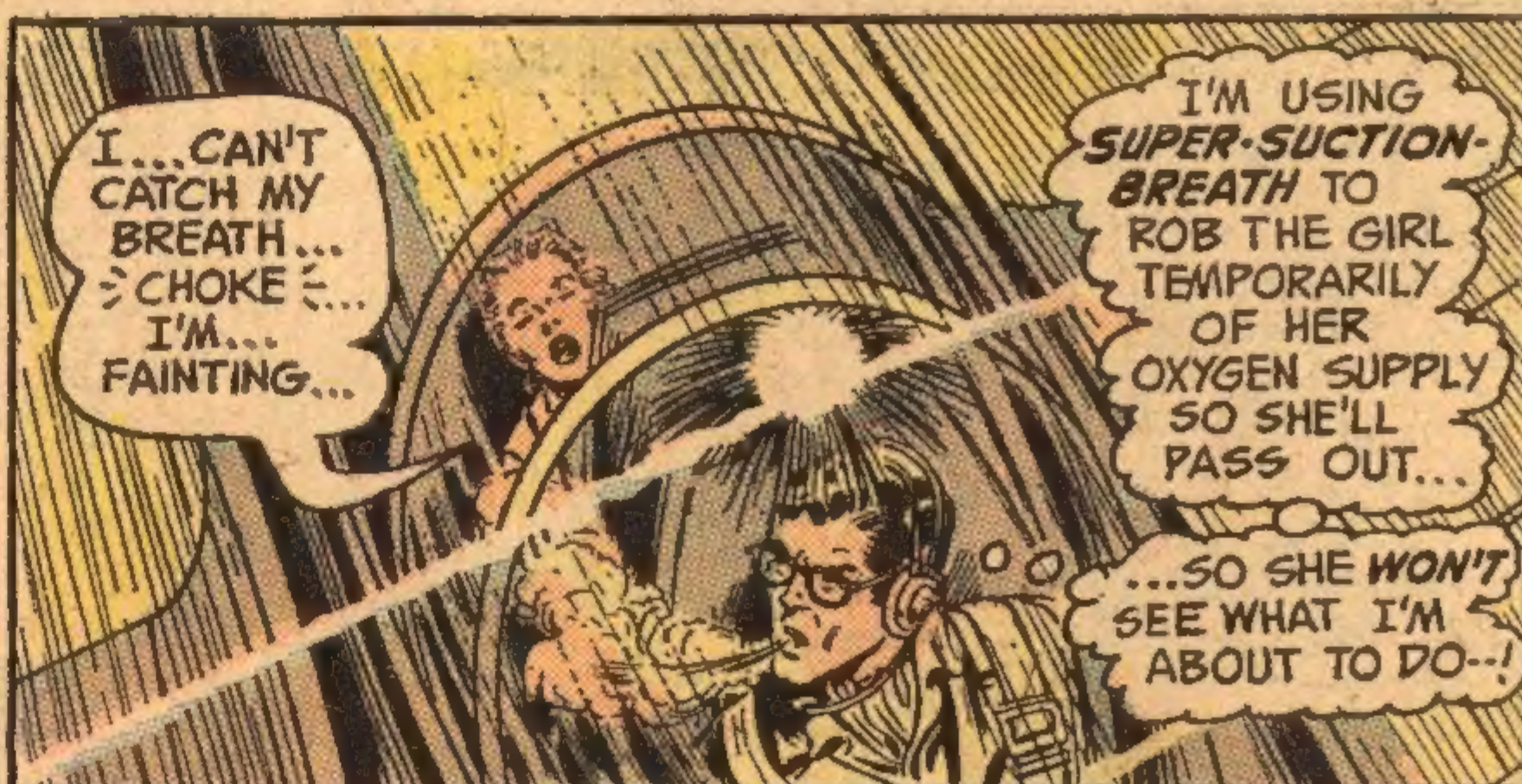
BUT EVEN AS CLARK SPEAKS THOSE WORDS...

...I *MUST* GET YOU OFF THIS PLANE!



WHAT'S THE IDEA? I KNOW YOU WANT TO GET RID OF ME... BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DIVE LIKE THAT, AND FRIGHTEN ME TO DEATH!

IT'S NOT MY DOING! WE'RE BEING PULLED DOWN THROUGH SOME SORT OF WEIRD ENERGY TUNNEL!



I... CAN'T CATCH MY BREATH... CHOKE... I'M... FAINTING...

I'M USING *SUPER-SUCTION-BREATH* TO ROB THE GIRL TEMPORARILY OF HER OXYGEN SUPPLY SO SHE'LL PASS OUT...

...SO SHE WON'T SEE WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO...!



WITH A TWIN THRUST OF HIS MASSIVE ARMS, THE *MAN OF STEEL* PLOWS BOTH FISTS OUT THROUGH THE PLUNGING AIRCRAFT'S HULL...

THESE ENERGY COILS WILL DRAG THE JET INTO A FATAL CRASH ON THAT ISLAND BELOW... UNLESS I TAKE OVER AND FLY *UNDER MY OWN POWER!*

NOW THAT I'VE GOT A GOOD GRIP ON THE FUSELAGE...

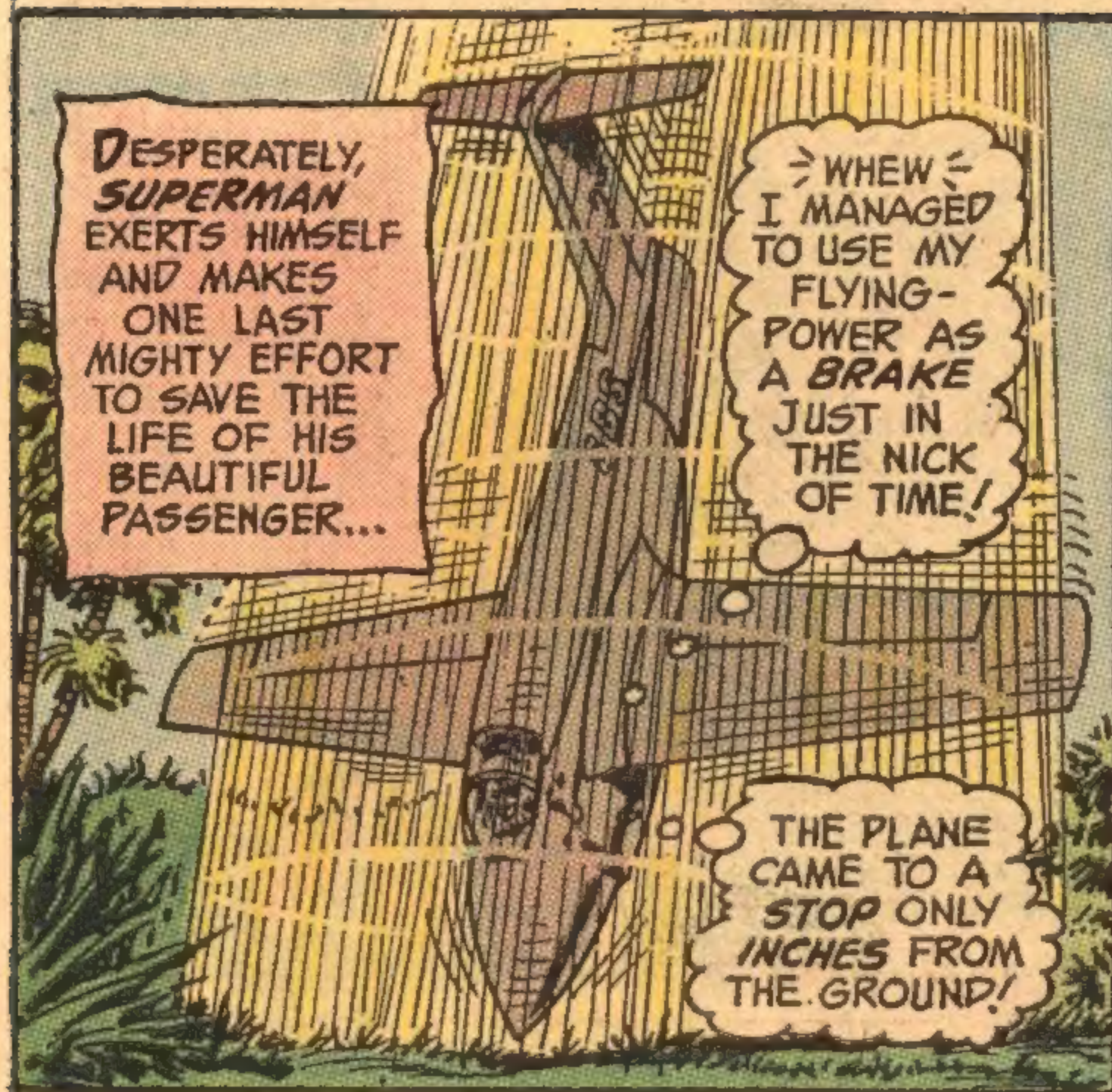
...I CAN *PULL* THE PLANE OUT OF ITS DEATH-DIVE!



THIS IS *FANTASTIC!* THE FORCE OF THIS ENERGY IS EVEN *TOO MUCH* FOR MY STRENGTH!

I *CAN'T* SWERVE THE JET OUT OF THE TUNNEL!

AND WE'RE ONLY A FEW SECONDS AWAY FROM *IMPACT!*



DESPERATELY, **SUPERMAN** EXERTS HIMSELF AND MAKES ONE LAST MIGHTY EFFORT TO SAVE THE LIFE OF HIS BEAUTIFUL PASSENGER...

WHEW! I MANAGED TO USE MY FLYING-POWER AS A BRAKE JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME!

THE PLANE CAME TO A STOP ONLY INCHES FROM THE GROUND!



A MOMENT LATER, AFTER SAFELY REMOVING THE UNCONSCIOUS GIRL...

ODD...THOSE ENERGY COILS VANISHED AS ABRUPTLY AS THEY APPEARED!

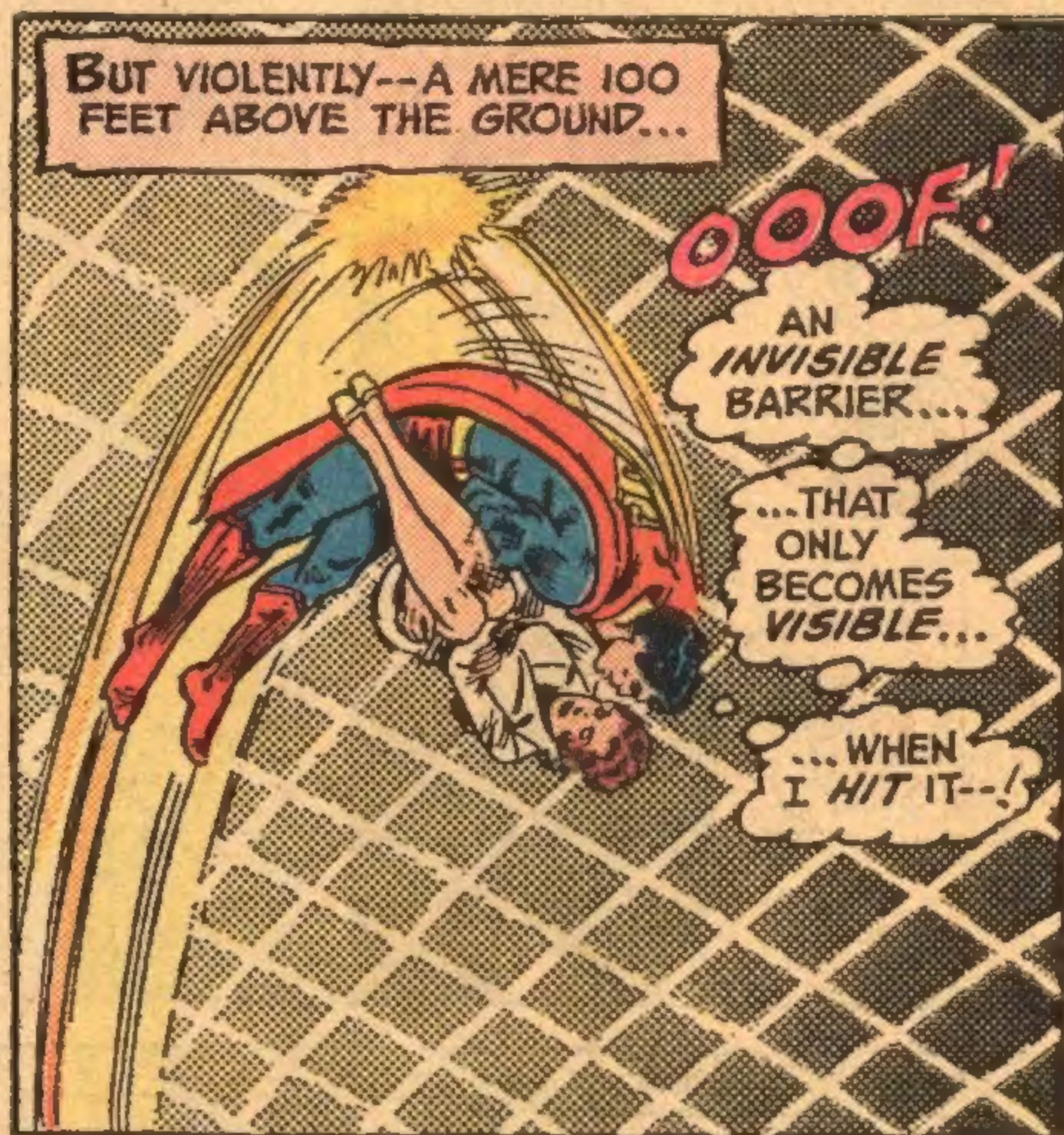
I HAVE A HUNCH SOMEONE ON THIS LITTLE ISLAND TRIED TO KNOCK US OUT OF THE SKY WITH A VERY ADVANCED WEAPON!

BUT WHO AND WHY ARE QUESTIONS FOR **SUPERMAN** TO ANSWER!



BEFORE I DO ANY INVESTIGATING... I'M TAKING IMPULSIVE "MISS STOWAWAY" BACK TO THE "QUEEN LIZA" BEFORE SHE WAKES UP!

THERE'S DANGER IN THE AIR HERE! I CAN SENSE IT!



BUT VIOLENTLY--A MERE 100 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND...

OOOF!

AN INVISIBLE BARRIER...

...THAT ONLY BECOMES VISIBLE...

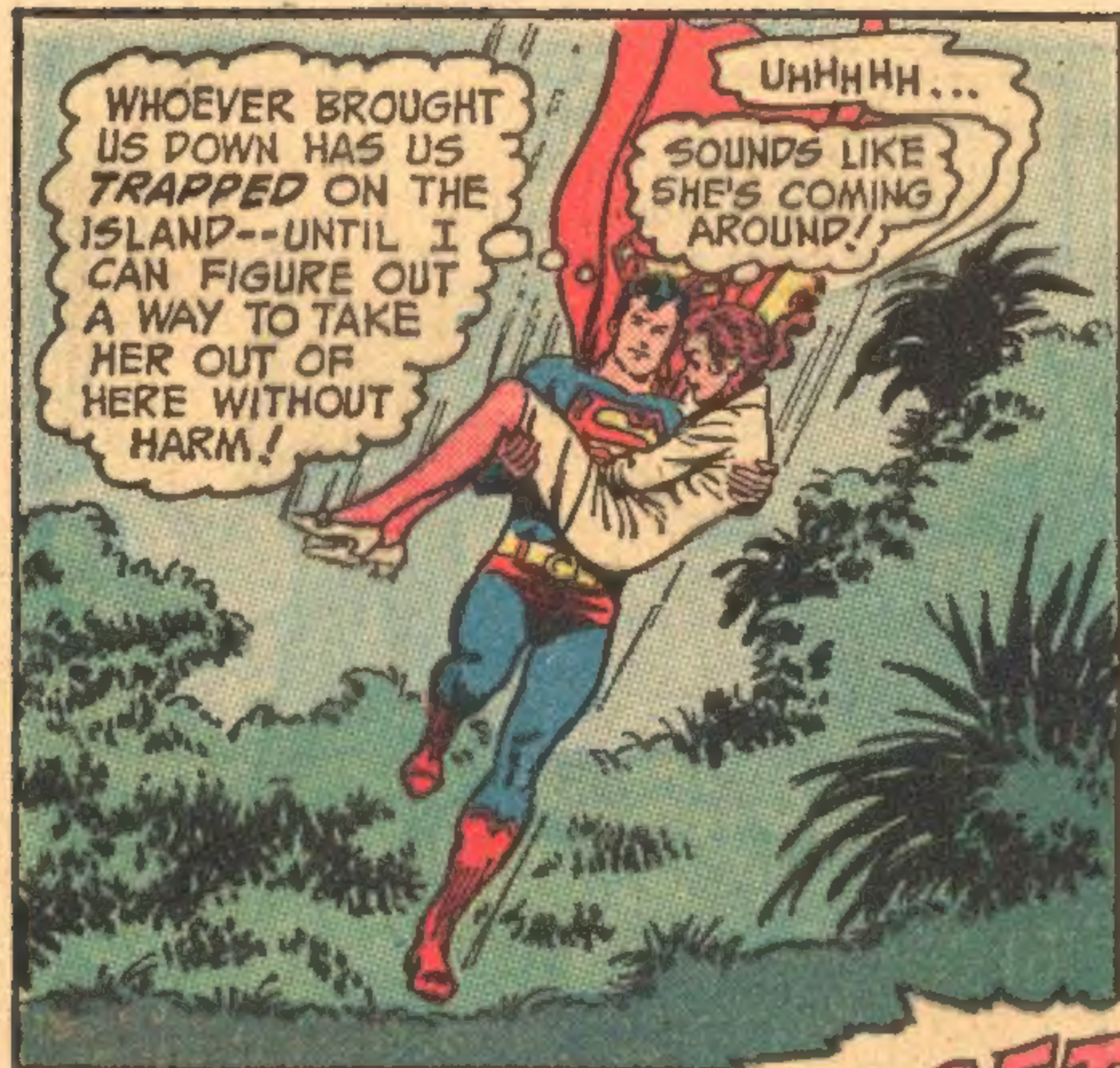
...WHEN I HIT IT--!



A QUICK SCAN OF THE AREA WITH HIS TELESCOPIC VISION REVEALS...

THAT FIGURES! THE BARRIER SURROUNDS THE ISLAND ON ALL SIDES, LIKE AN UNSEEN COCOON!

IF I REALLY PUSHED MYSELF, I COULD PROBABLY BREAK THROUGH IT... BUT THE GIRL WOULD NEVER SURVIVE SUCH A SHOCK!



WHOEVER BROUGHT US DOWN HAS US TRAPPED ON THE ISLAND--UNTIL I CAN FIGURE OUT A WAY TO TAKE HER OUT OF HERE WITHOUT HARM!

UHHHHH...

SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S COMING AROUND!



OH... I FEEL SO... SO GROGGY!

LAST THING I REMEMBER IS BLACKING OUT ON THE PLANE...



HER LONG-LASHED EYELIDS GRADUALLY OPEN, BUT WHEN SHE DISCERNS THE FAMOUS GARB OF HER RESCUER...

N-NO, NO!

NOT **YOU!**

I'D RATHER DIE THAN BE TOUCHED BY YOU!

G-GET AWAY FROM ME!



SHE'S SCREAMING... FRANTIC WITH FEAR! NOBODY EVER REACTED TO ME LIKE THIS BEFORE--

WHY ARE YOU SO DEATHLY AFRAID OF ME--?



K-KEEP AWAY! I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU!

SHE'S TOO HYSTERICAL TO MAKE SENSE...

BEST THING I CAN DO IS LEAVE!

SHE WON'T CALM DOWN UNTIL SUPERMAN IS OUT OF HER SIGHT!



A BRIEF MOMENT LATER...

SOB

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MISS? MAY I HELP YOU UP?

ROGER'S SUPER SKITTLE BOWL

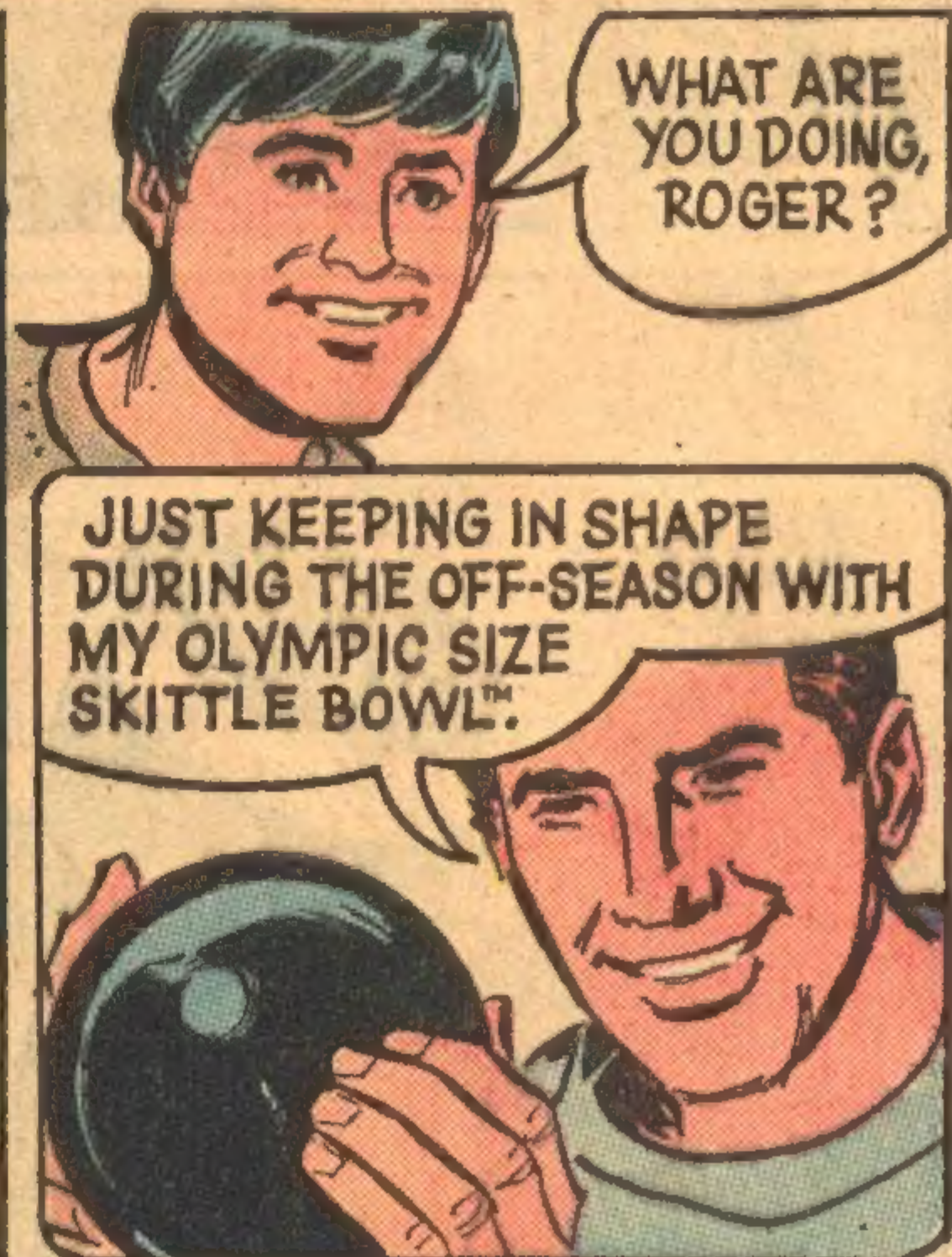
LOOK THAT'S
ROGER STAUBACH,
THE FAMOUS FOOTBALL STAR



YEAH, AND HE'S PLAYING WITH
THE BIGGEST SKITTLE BOWL
I'VE EVER SEEN.



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING,
ROGER?



JUST KEEPING IN SHAPE
DURING THE OFF-SEASON WITH
MY OLYMPIC SIZE
SKITTLE BOWL™.

GEE, IT'S
GIGANTIC

IT'S TALLER
THAN ME

NATURALLY
EVERYTHING'S
BIG IN TEXAS.



BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE
FROM TEXAS TO HAVE AN
OLYMPIC SIZE SKITTLE
BOWL.

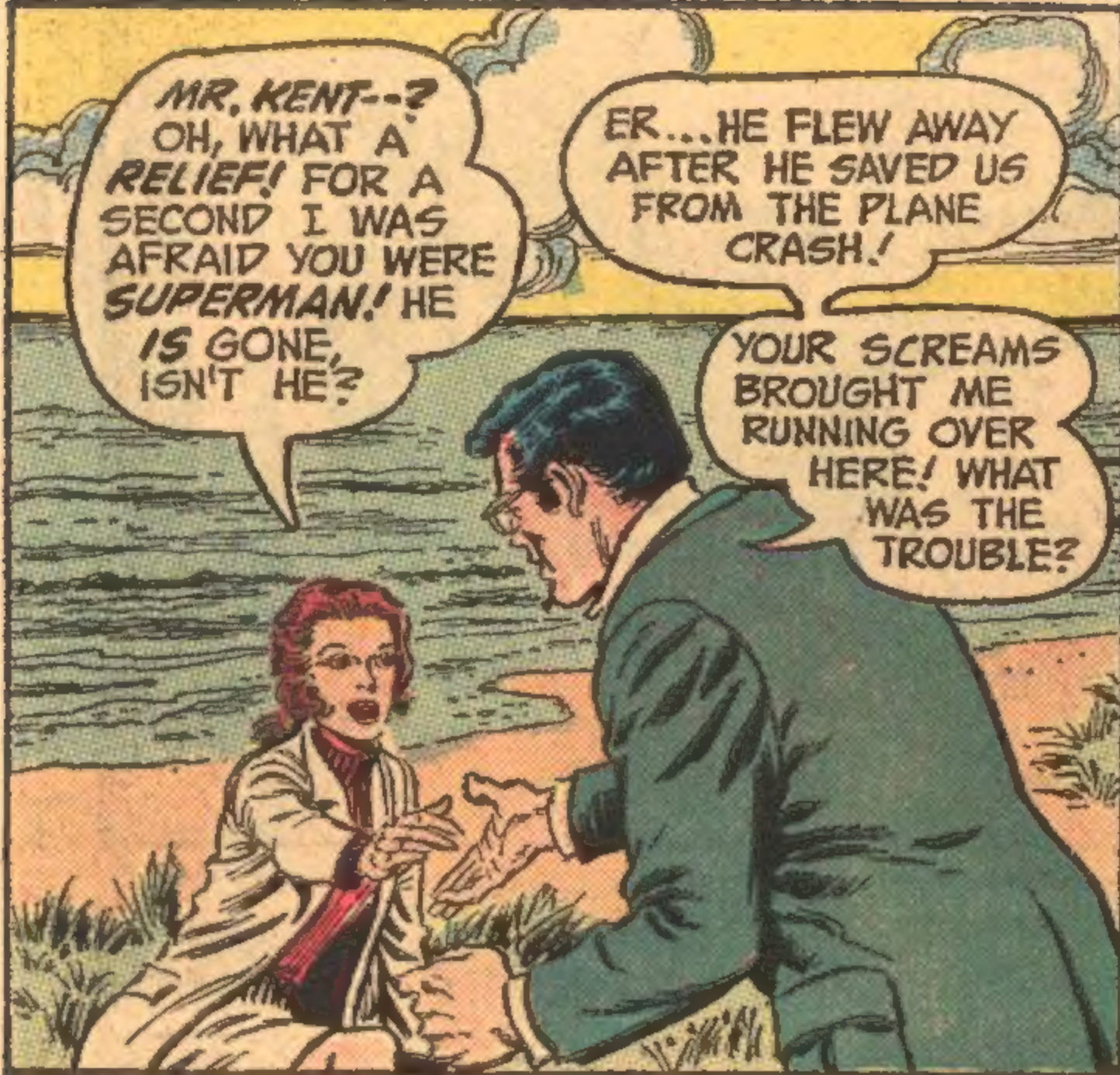


OLYMPIC SIZE SKITTLE
BOWL. IT'S LIKE HAVING
A BOWLING ALLEY IN
YOUR BACKYARD...
OR PLAYROOM.



WHEN IT COMES TO BOWL GAMES, ROGER STAUBACH IS AN EXPERT!
HE'S SPORTS ADVISOR TO AURORA.

AURORA®



MR. KENT--?
OH, WHAT A
RELIEF! FOR A
SECOND I WAS
AFRAID YOU WERE
SUPERMAN! HE
IS GONE,
ISN'T HE?

ER...HE FLEW AWAY
AFTER HE SAVED US
FROM THE PLANE
CRASH!

YOUR SCREAMS
BROUGHT ME
RUNNING OVER
HERE! WHAT
WAS THE
TROUBLE?



SUPERMAN!

HE MADE ME
PANIC! HE WAS
COMING CLOSER...
ABOUT TO TOUCH
ME!



OHhhh!

TAKE IT EASY!
I'VE GOT A
HOLD OF YOU!



WHAT'S WRONG
WITH YOUR LEGS?
CAN'T YOU
WALK?

JUST
BARELY...

YOU SEE...
SUPERMAN
CRIPPLED
ME!



A STUNNED LOOK FLASHES ACROSS CLARK'S FACE
AS HE LISTENS TO THE GIRL HE IS SUPPOSED TO
HAVE LAMED...

SUPERMAN DID THIS
TO YOU? I...ER...FIND
THAT HARD TO BELIEVE!

YOU WILL--AFTER I
EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED
15 YEARS AGO!



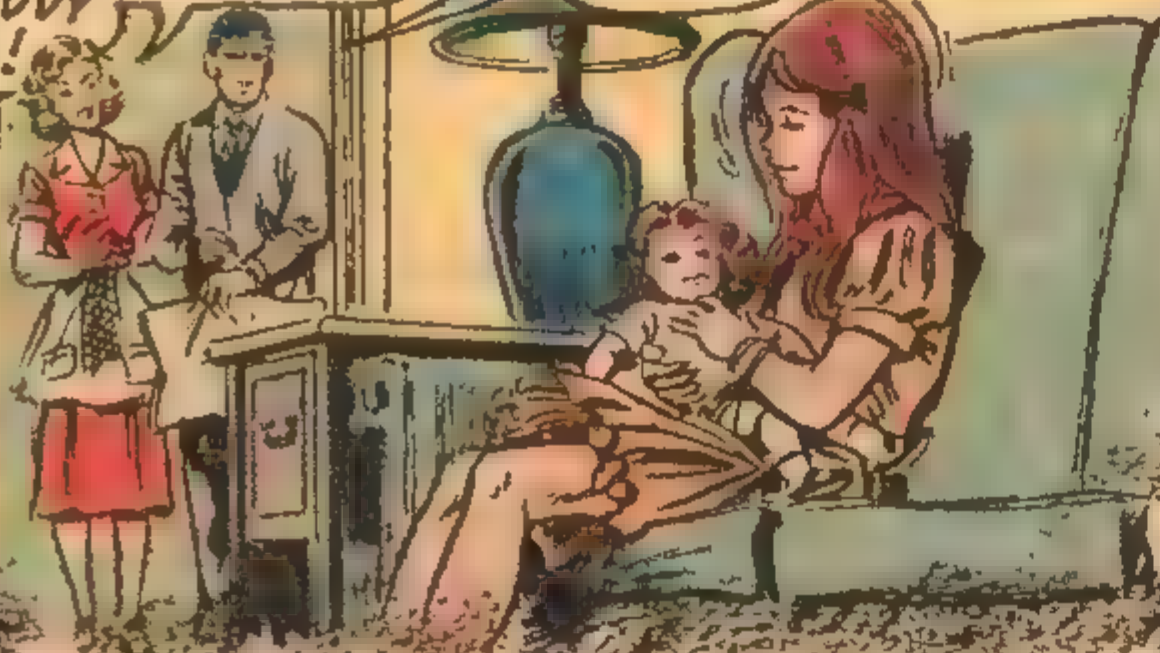
I WAS ONLY
ELEVEN
THEN... MY
PARENTS
OWNED A
HOUSE IN
SMALLVILLE!

*EDITOR'S NOTE:
SMALLVILLE IS THE TOWN
WHERE CLARK GREW UP DURING
THOSE YEARS HE WAS SECRETLY
SUPERBOY!

"DURING MY CHILDHOOD, I GREW VERY ATTACHED TO AN OLD RAGGEDY DOLL I NAMED *BELINDA*! BUT AFTER AWHILE, MY PARENTS BEGAN TO WORRY..."

IT'S JUST NOT *NATURAL*! LITTLE CHRISTY SPENDS ALL HER TIME WITH THAT SHODDY DOLL!

SHE ALMOST TREATS IT LIKE A LIVING *PERSON*! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

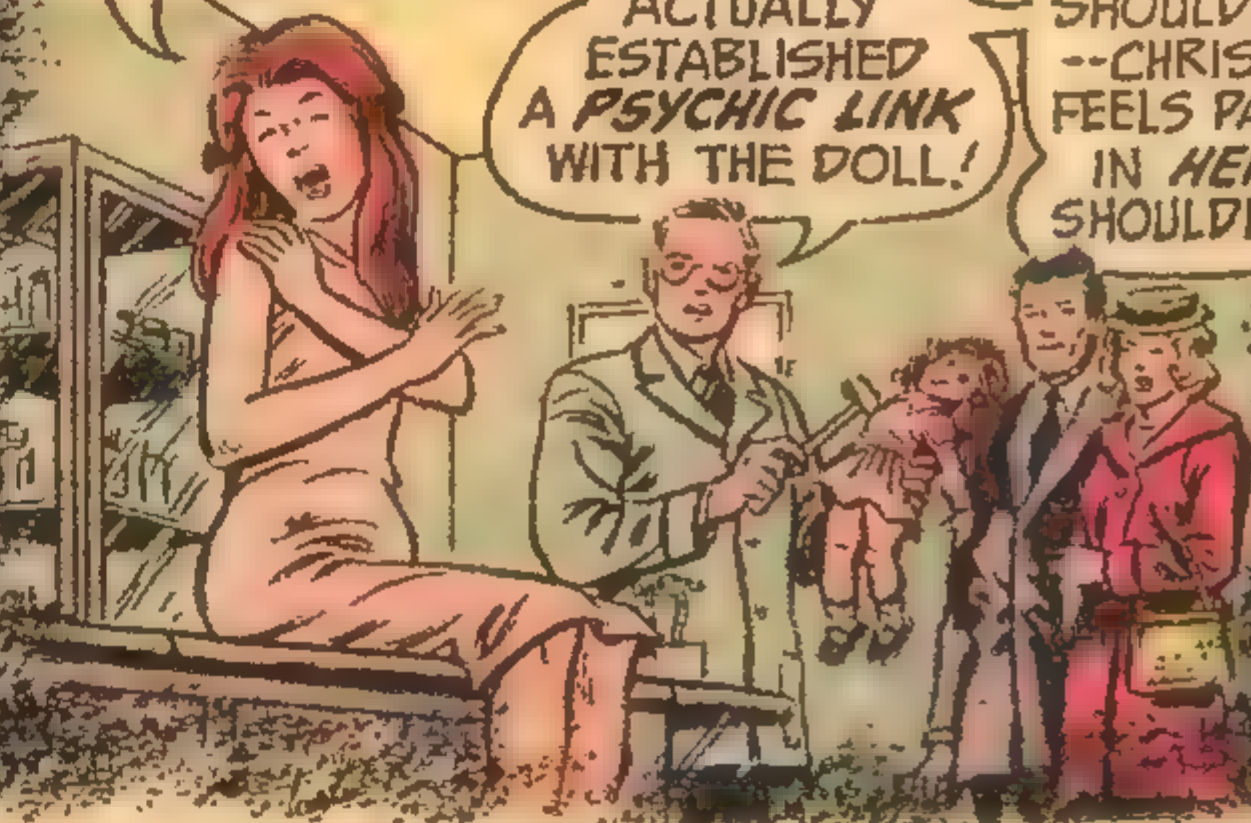


"THEY FINALLY TOOK ME TO A DOCTOR, WHOSE EXAMINATION ENDED WITH AN ASTOUNDING DISCOVERY..."

WAAAH!
YOU HURT ME--!

THIS IS TRULY REMARKABLE! HER MIND HAS ACTUALLY ESTABLISHED A *PSYCHIC LINK* WITH THE DOLL!

WHEN I STRIKE THE DOLL'S SHOULDER --CHRISTY FEELS PAIN IN *HER* SHOULDER!

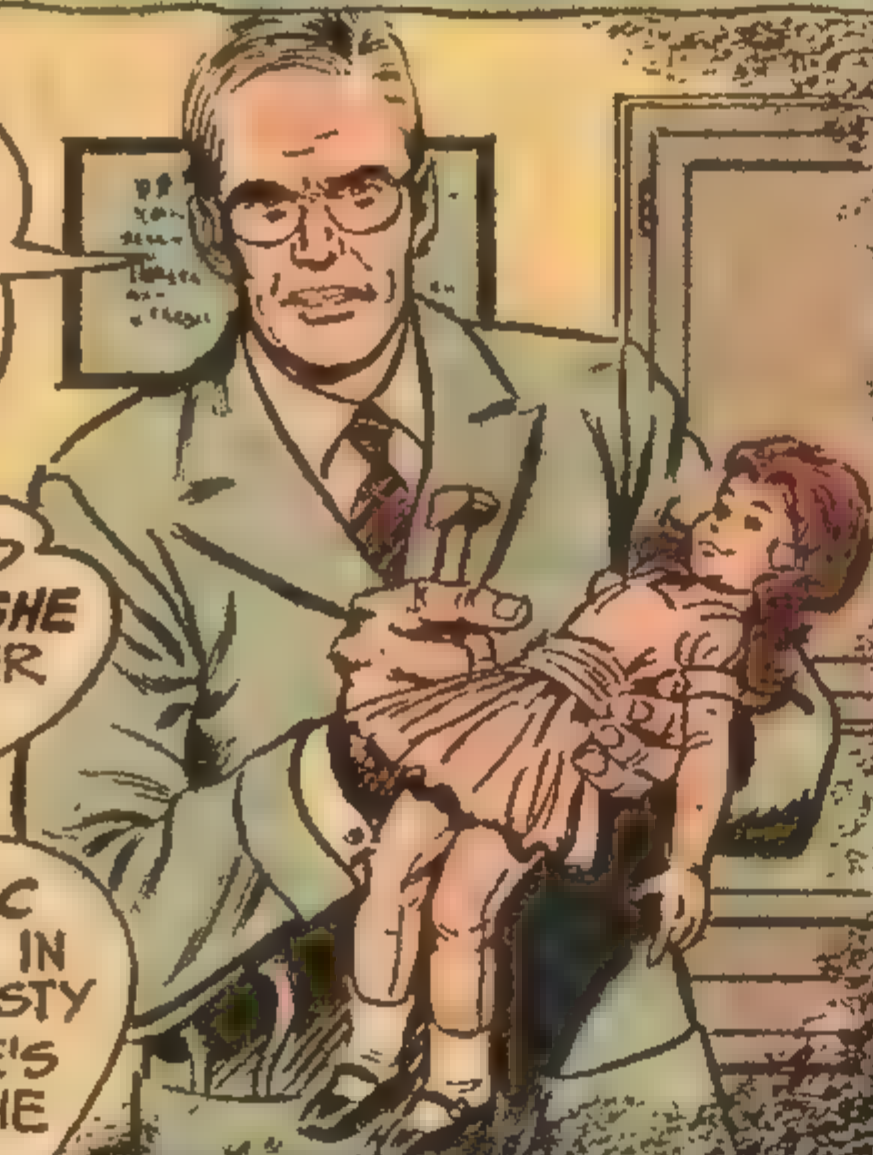


"THE DOCTOR EXPLAINED MY UNIQUE CONDITION AS '*PSYCHOSOMATIC TRANSFERENCE*'..."

...IN OTHER WORDS, YOUR DAUGHTER IS SO EMOTIONALLY ATTACHED TO THIS DOLL...

SHE'S CONVINCED HERSELF THAT *SHE* FEELS WHATEVER IT "*FEELS*"!

PSYCHOSOMATIC MEANS IT'S ALL IN HER *MIND*! CHRISTY ONLY THINKS SHE'S IN PAIN WHEN THE DOLL IS HURT!



"MY PARENTS WERE GIVEN THE NAME OF A SPECIALIST WHO COULD TREAT ME! BUT THAT VERY NIGHT, TRAGEDY STRUCK OUR HOME..."

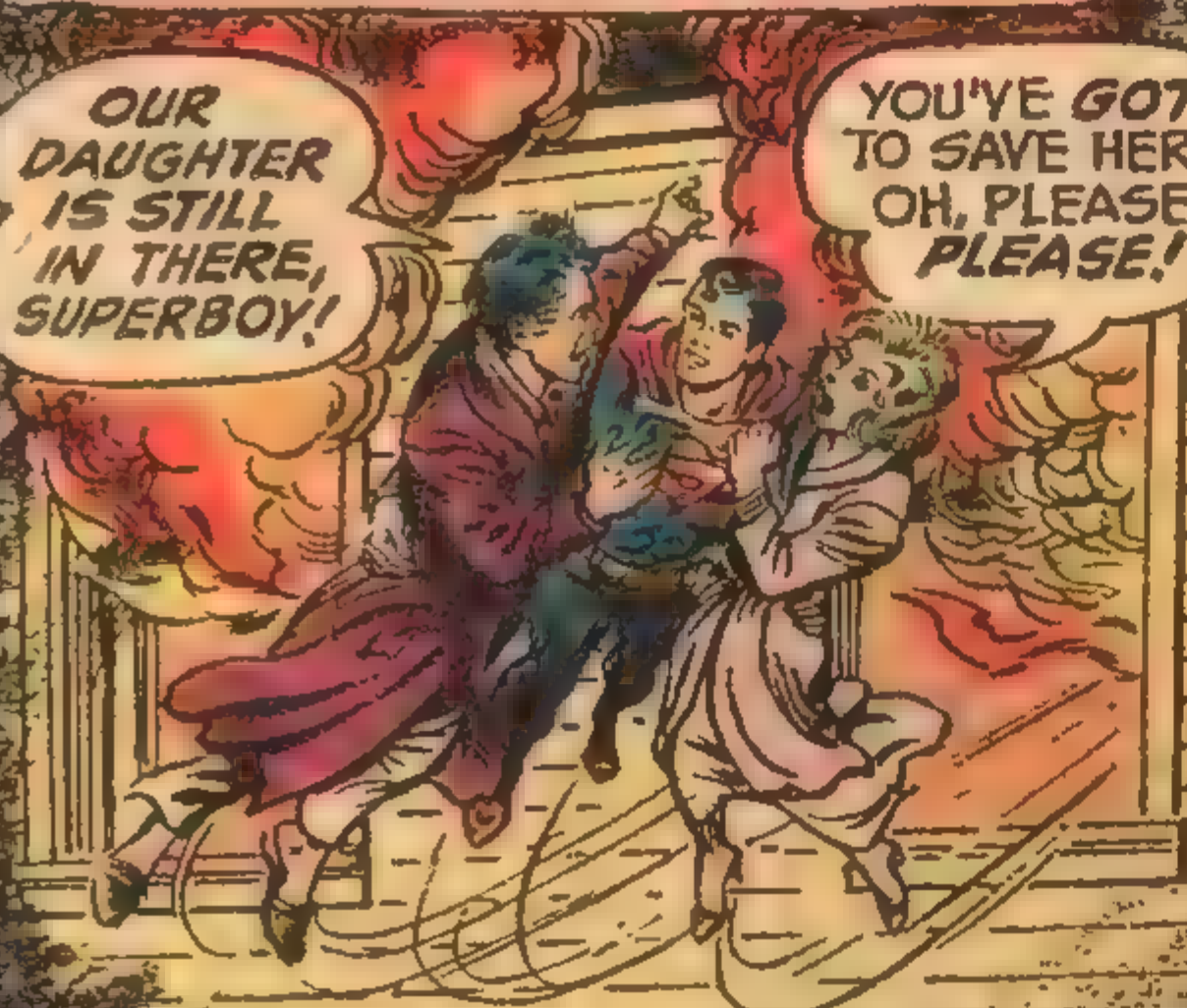


"A FAULTY ELECTRICAL WIRE SHORT-CIRCUITED AND STARTED A *FIRE* WHILE ALL OF US WERE ASLEEP. IT TOOK ONLY A FEW MINUTES FOR THE FLAMES TO GO OUT OF CONTROL..."

"WE WOULD'VE SURELY PERISHED--IF *SUPERBOY* HADN'T BEEN PATROLLING SMALLVILLE AT THE TIME..."

OUR DAUGHTER IS STILL IN THERE, *SUPERBOY*!

YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE HER! OH, PLEASE-- PLEASE!



"TO THIS DAY, I CAN STILL SEE HIM FLYING INTO MY BEDROOM WINDOW, THROUGH ALL THAT SMOKE..."



GET THESE DYNAMITE EMBROIDERED CLOTH PATCHES THAT TELL IT LIKE IT IS!

EACH GROOVY PATCH MEASURES 3". MADE TO SELL FOR MUCH, MUCH MORE. YOUR SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY CHEERFULLY REFUNDED. ORDER NOW!

NOW ONLY 69c

EACH FOR 3 OR MORE

75c EACH WHEN ORDERED SEPARATELY.
PAY ONLY 69c EACH FOR 3 OR MORE.



1. Peace Symbol

2. Stop

3. Psychedelic Love

4. Bunny

5. Survival (Ecology)

6. Gas Mask

7. Peace Flag



8. Peace

9. Life Symbol

10. Pollution Skull

11. Black Is Beautiful

12. Cobra

13. Help! I Need Lovin'

14. Peace Slogan



15. Life Slogan

16. Peace Sergeant

17. Woodstock Dove

18. Soul Power

19. Olympic Drinker

20. Roadrunner

21. Wily Coyote



22. Eye Spy

23. STP

24. Budweiser

25. All American Patch

26. US Flag

27. Confederate Flag



28. Flash Gordon

29. Chopper

30. Skull and Crossbones

31. Ecology Peace Flag



32. Popeye

33. Felix

34. Happy Face

35. Beetle's Sgt. Pepper

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"JUST AS HE WAS ABOUT TO SNATCH ME UP FROM MY BED, A SUPPORT BEAM FROM THE CEILING CAVED-IN..."

"SUPERBOY REACTED INSTANTLY BY DEFLECTING THE HEAVY BEAM WITH HIS SHOULDER, SAVING MY LIFE..."

"BUT RESCUING ME-- HE KNOCKED THE BEAM ON TOP OF *BELINDA*! I SHRIEKED IN TERROR AS I SAW IT CRUSH HER LEGS..."

CRACCK!

THOCKK

EEEEKK!
BELINDA!
YOU HURT MY DOLL!

MY PARENTS SALVAGED THE DOLL FROM THE RUINS... EVEN REPAIRED ITS LEGS... BUT THE TRAUMATIC *SHOCK* I SUFFERED THAT NIGHT DID *PERMANENT* DAMAGE!

I'VE BEEN *CRIPPLED* EVER SINCE...

...AND THE EXPERIENCE HAS STRICKEN ME WITH A *DEATHLY* FEAR OF HIM FROM THAT TIME!

YOUR LEGS... HOW BAD ARE THEY?

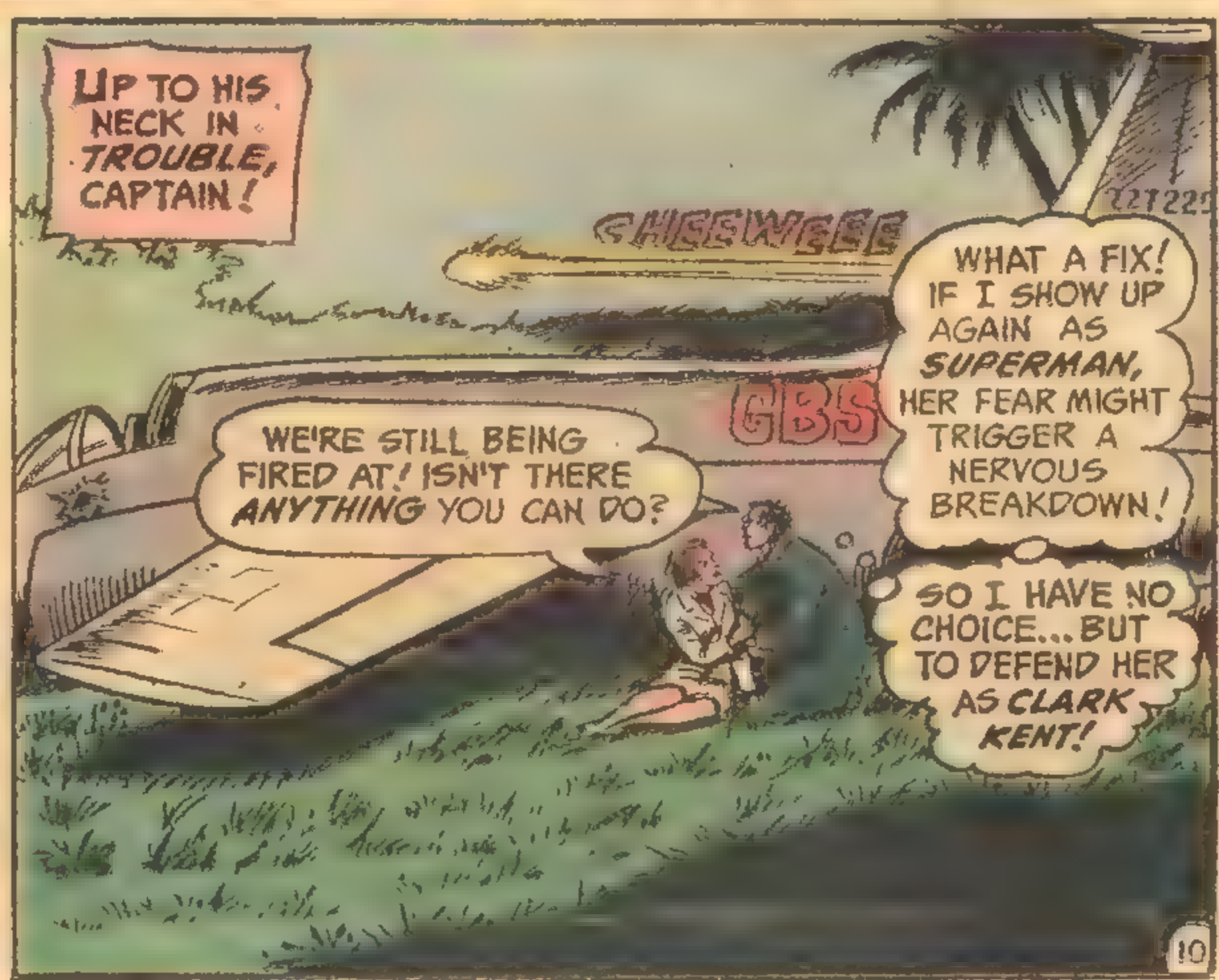
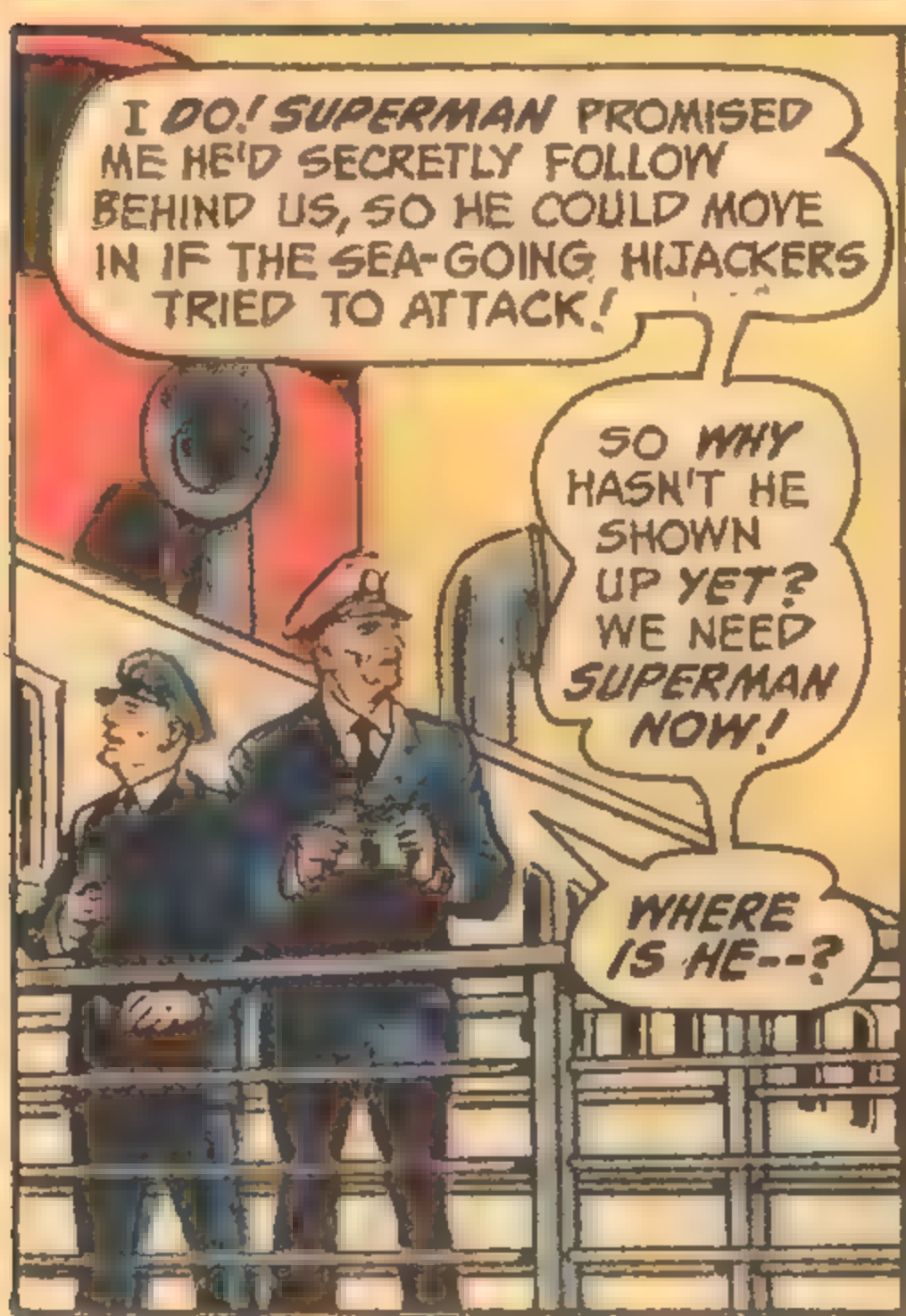
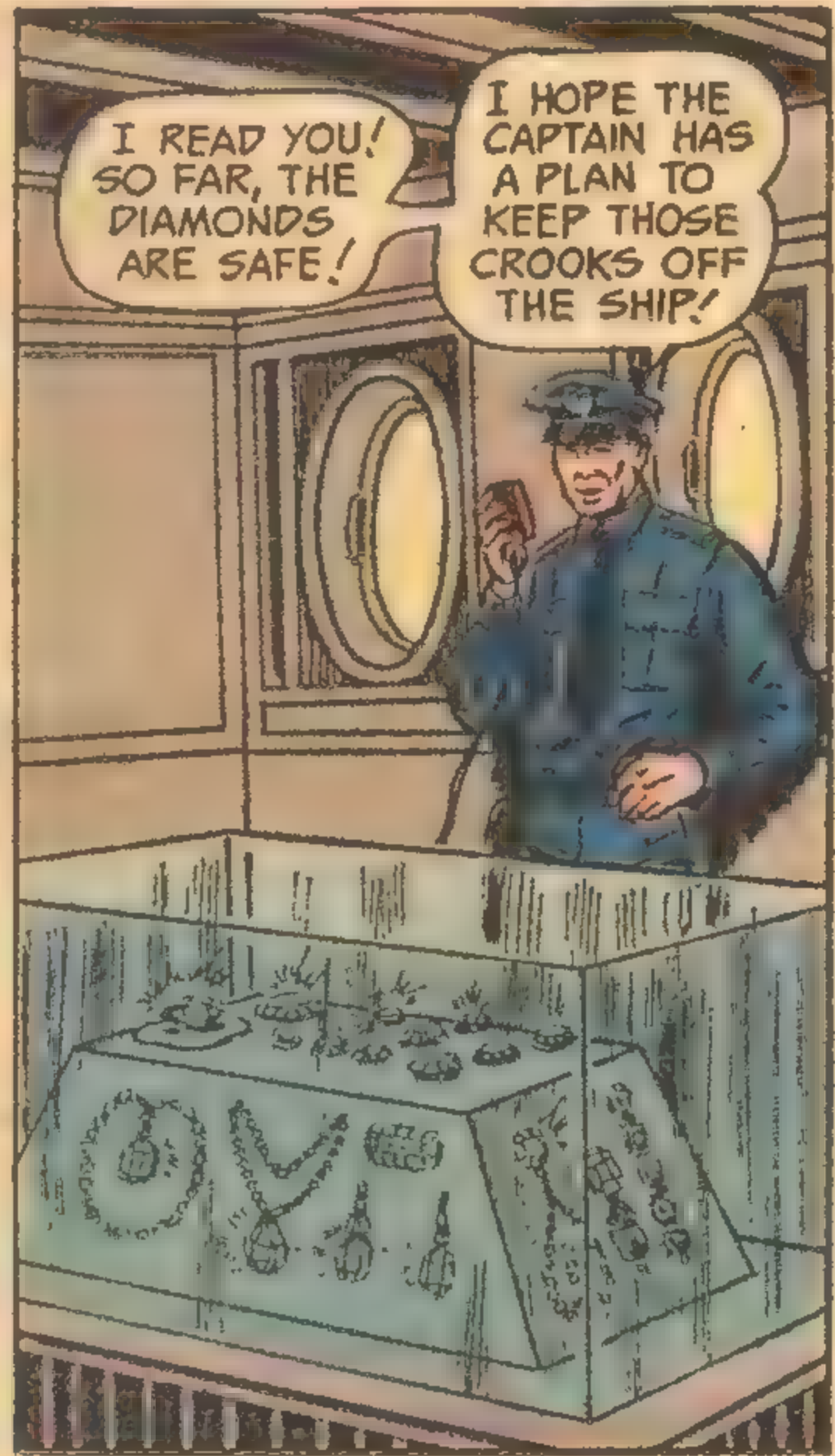
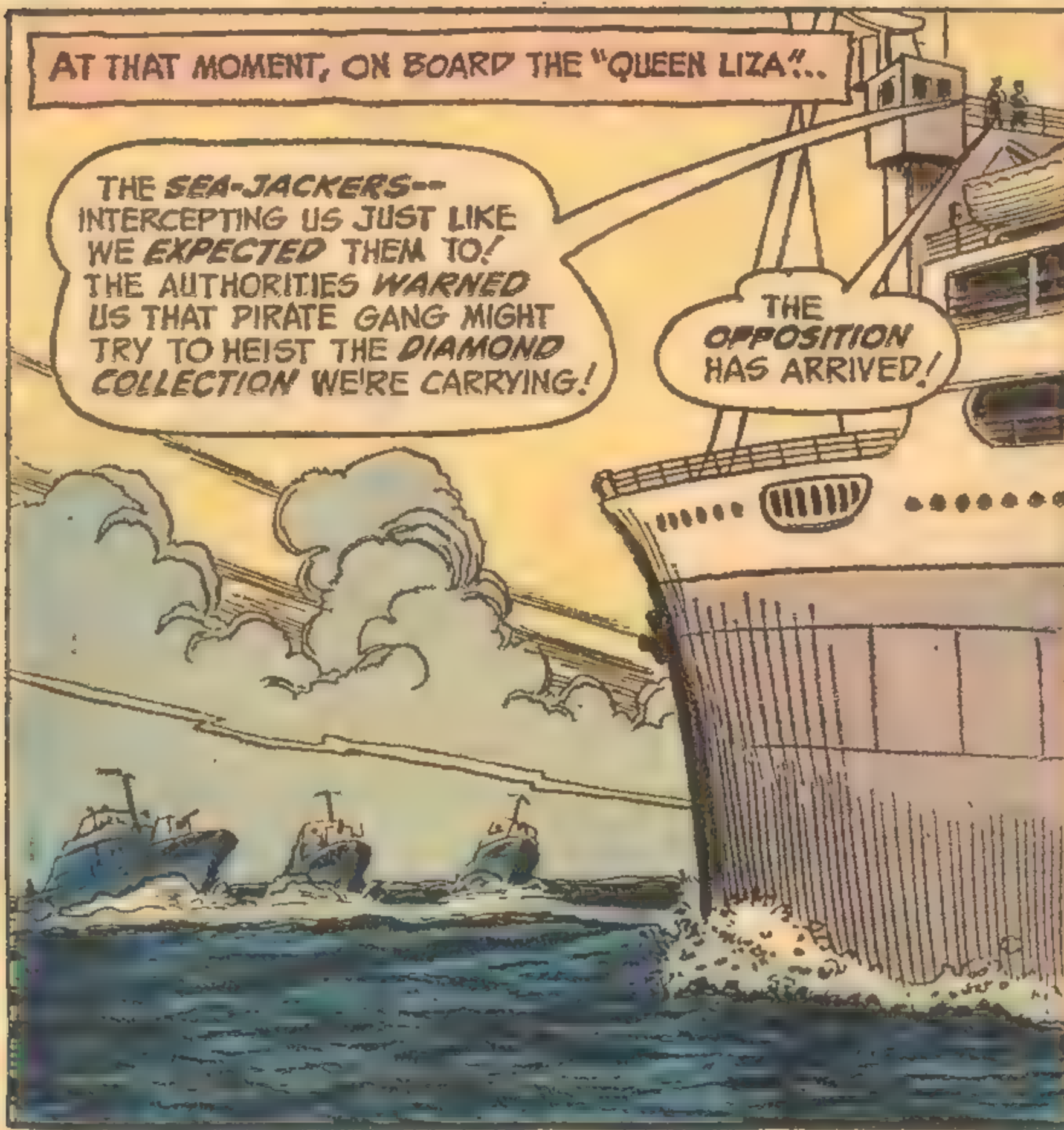
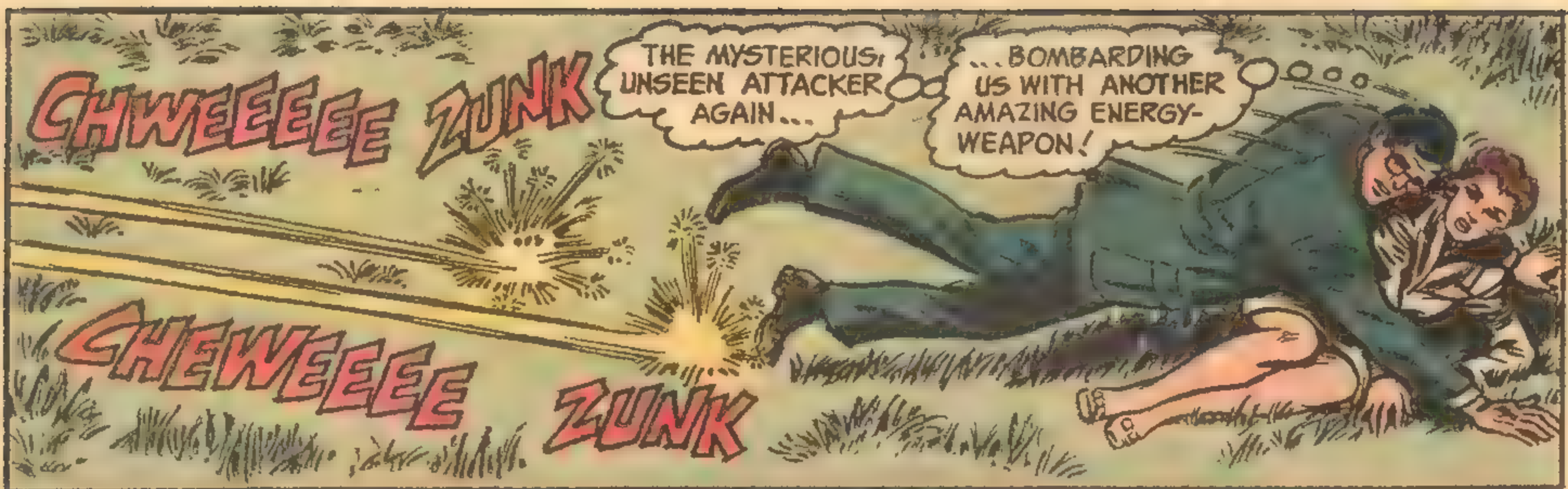
I CAN BE ON MY FEET ONLY A FEW *SECONDS* AT A TIME!

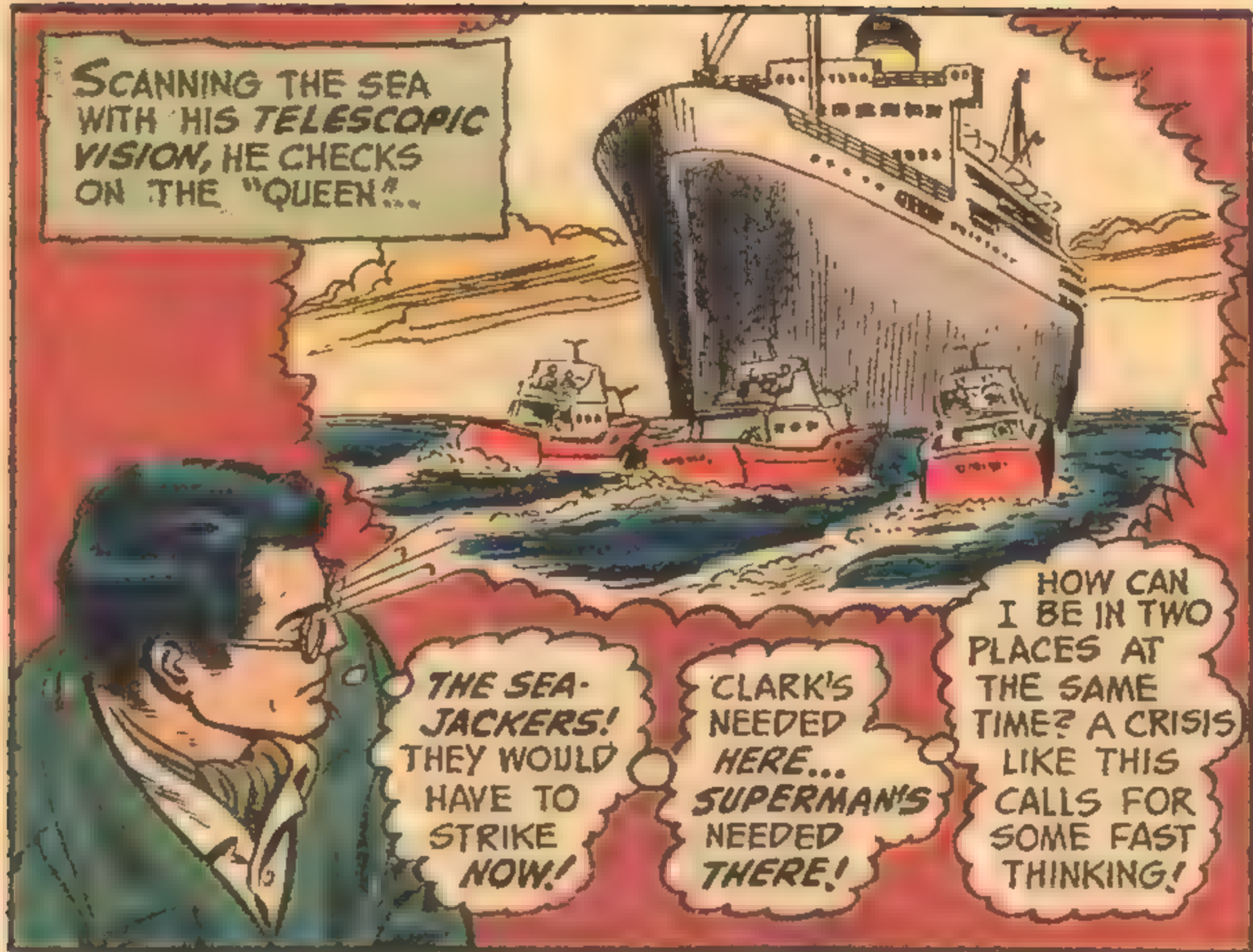
I LIMPED MY WAY ONTO YOUR PLANE, MR. KENT, TO GET AWAY FROM THE OCEAN LINER-- BECAUSE I SAW *SUPERMAN* FLYING NEARBY!

IF CHRISTY ONLY KNEW WHO SHE WAS REALLY TALKING TO RIGHT NOW!

CHEWEEEE

WH-WHAT'S THAT... *STRANGE* SOUND?



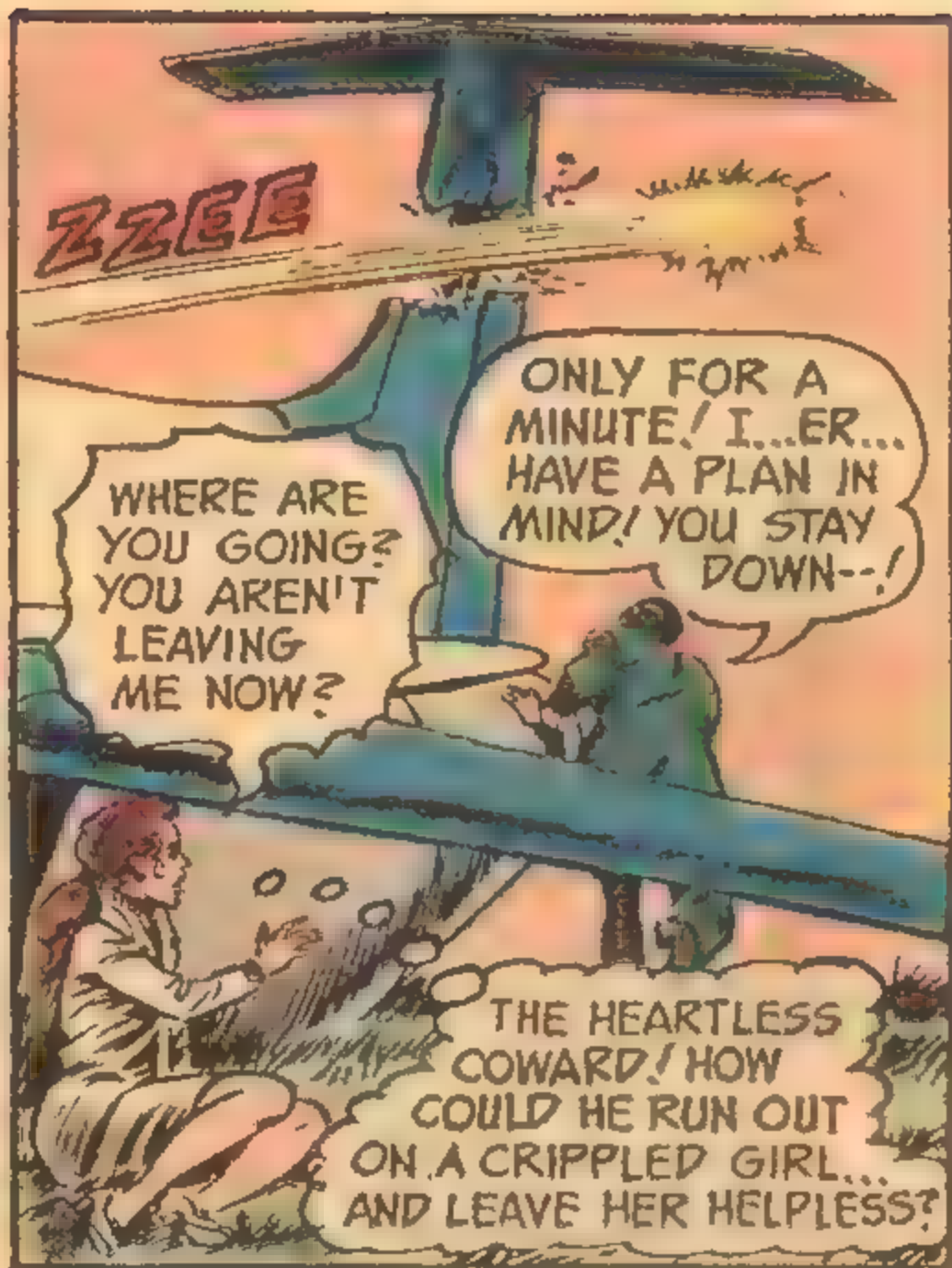


SCANNING THE SEA WITH HIS TELESCOPIC VISION, HE CHECKS ON THE "QUEEN"...

THE SEA-JACKERS! THEY WOULD HAVE TO STRIKE NOW!

CLARK'S NEEDED HERE... SUPERMAN'S NEEDED THERE!

HOW CAN I BE IN TWO PLACES AT THE SAME TIME? A CRISIS LIKE THIS CALLS FOR SOME FAST THINKING!

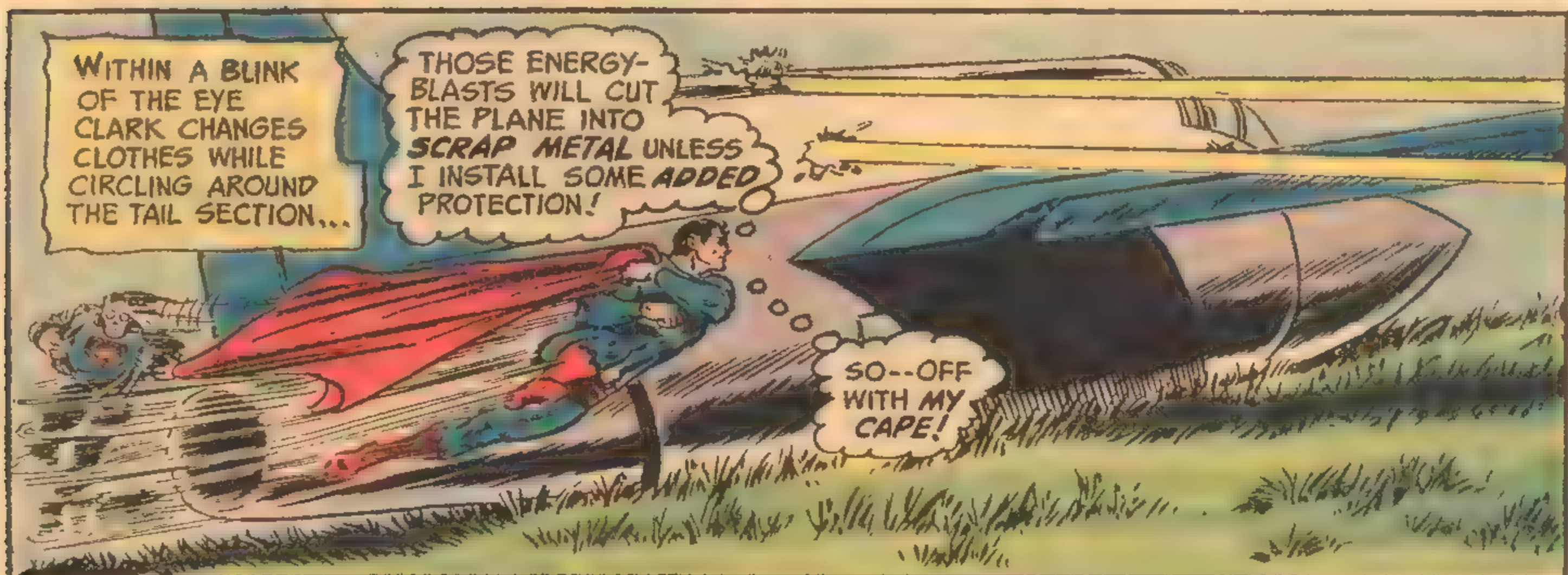


ZZEE

WHERE ARE YOU GOING? YOU AREN'T LEAVING ME NOW?

ONLY FOR A MINUTE! I...ER... HAVE A PLAN IN MIND! YOU STAY DOWN--!

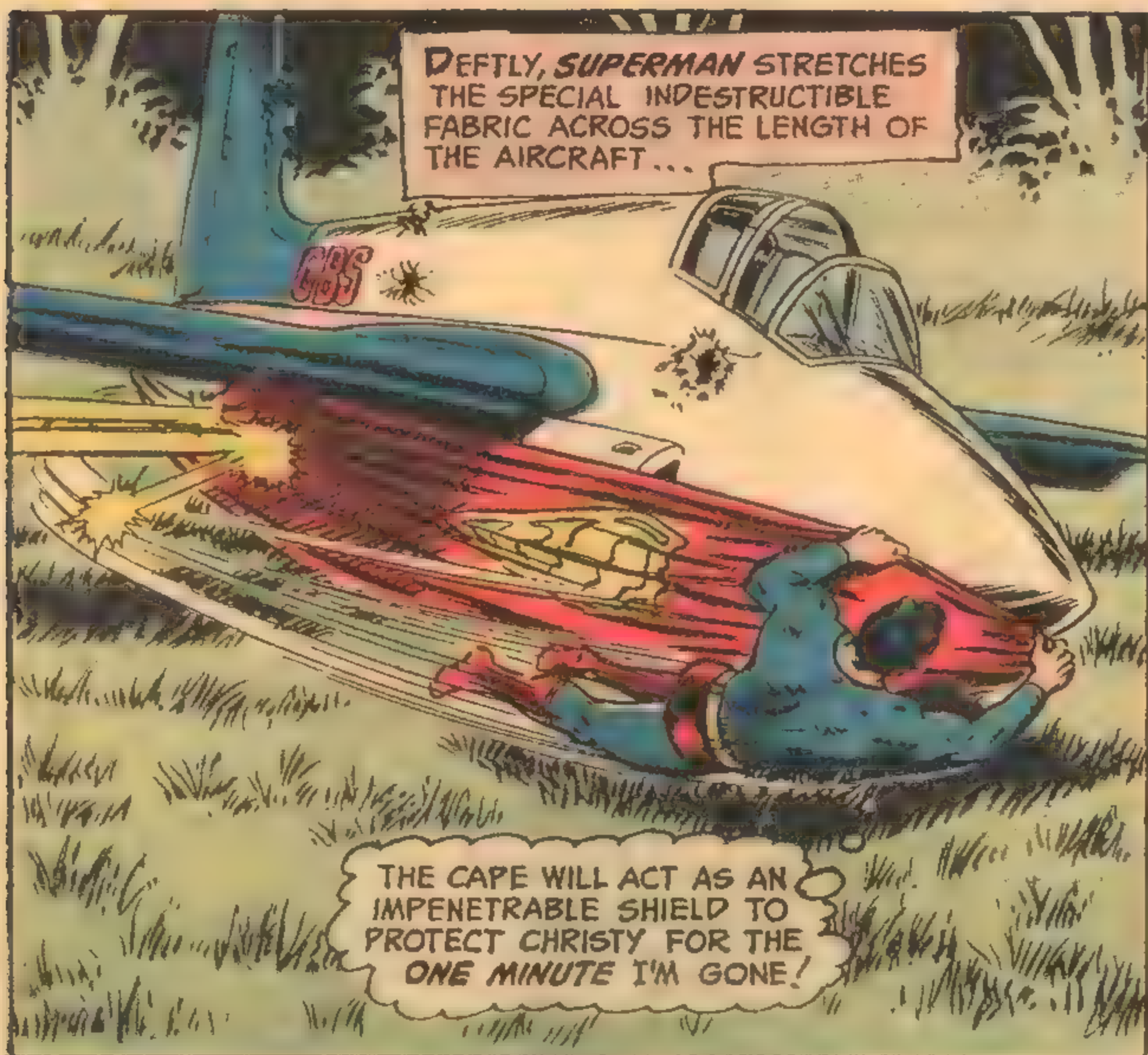
THE HEARTLESS COWARD! HOW COULD HE RUN OUT ON A CRIPPLED GIRL... AND LEAVE HER HELPLESS?



WITHIN A BLINK OF THE EYE CLARK CHANGES CLOTHES WHILE CIRCLING AROUND THE TAIL SECTION...

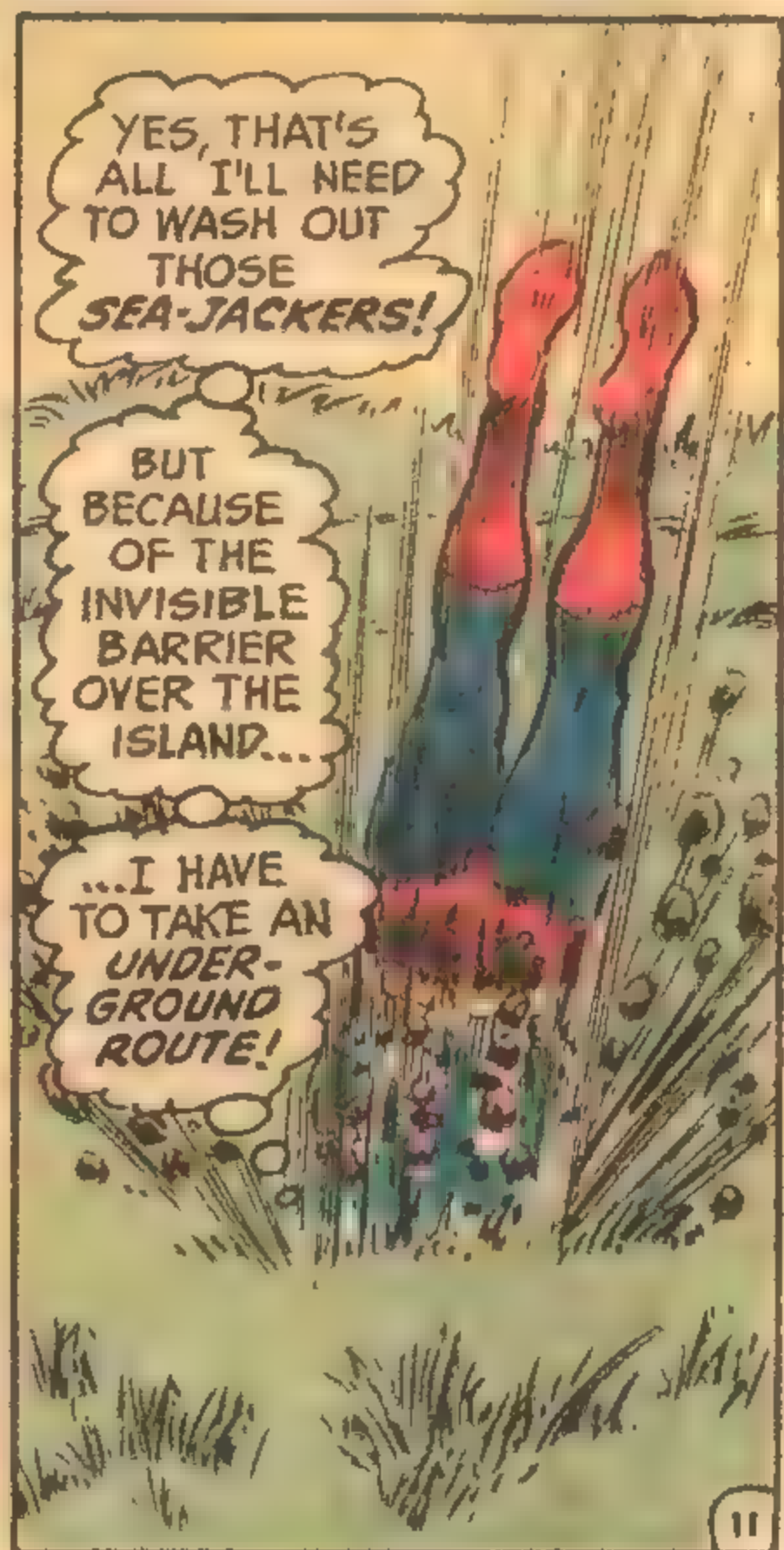
THOSE ENERGY-BLASTS WILL CUT THE PLANE INTO SCRAP METAL UNLESS I INSTALL SOME ADDED PROTECTION!

SO--OFF WITH MY CAPE!



DEFTLY, SUPERMAN STRETCHES THE SPECIAL INDESTRUCTIBLE FABRIC ACROSS THE LENGTH OF THE AIRCRAFT...

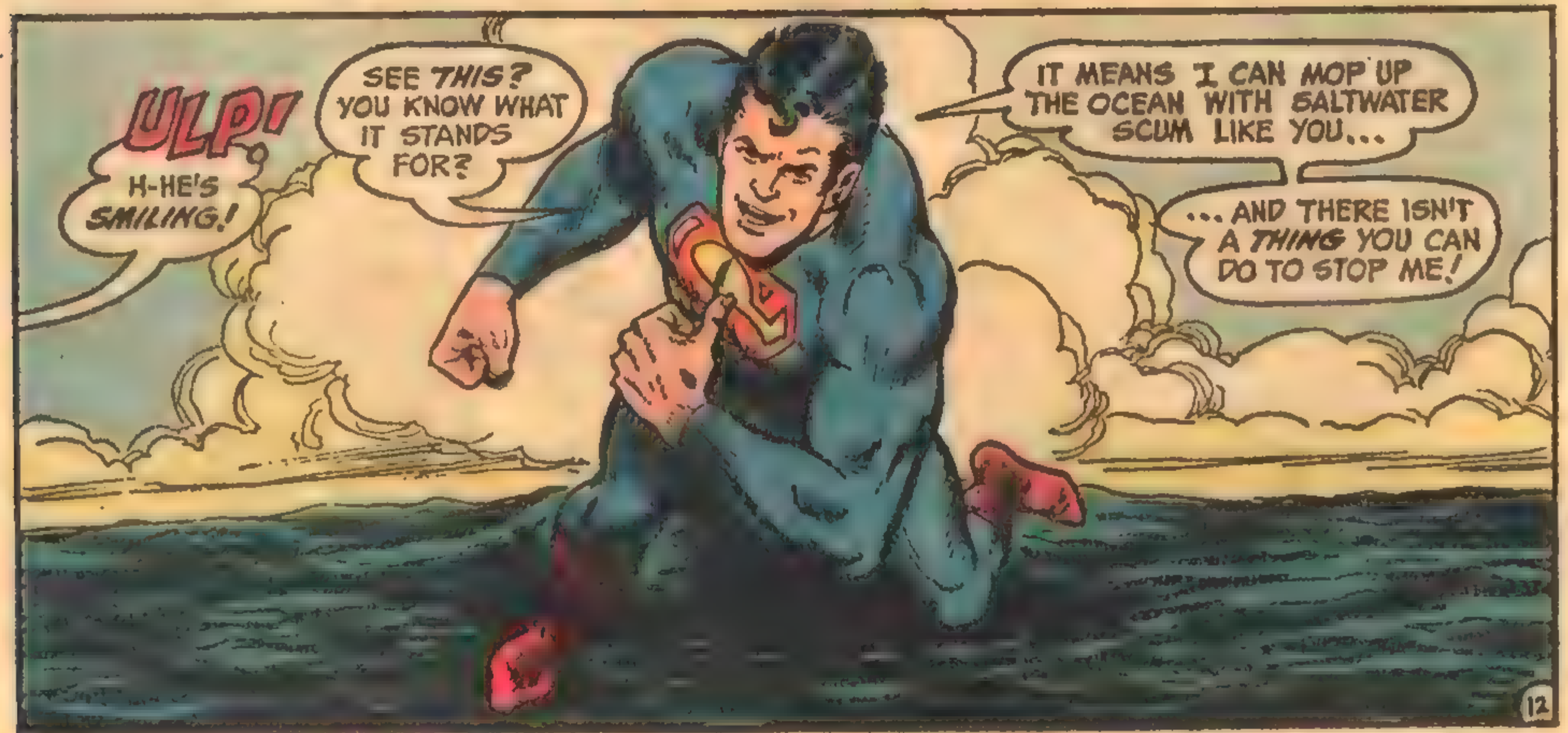
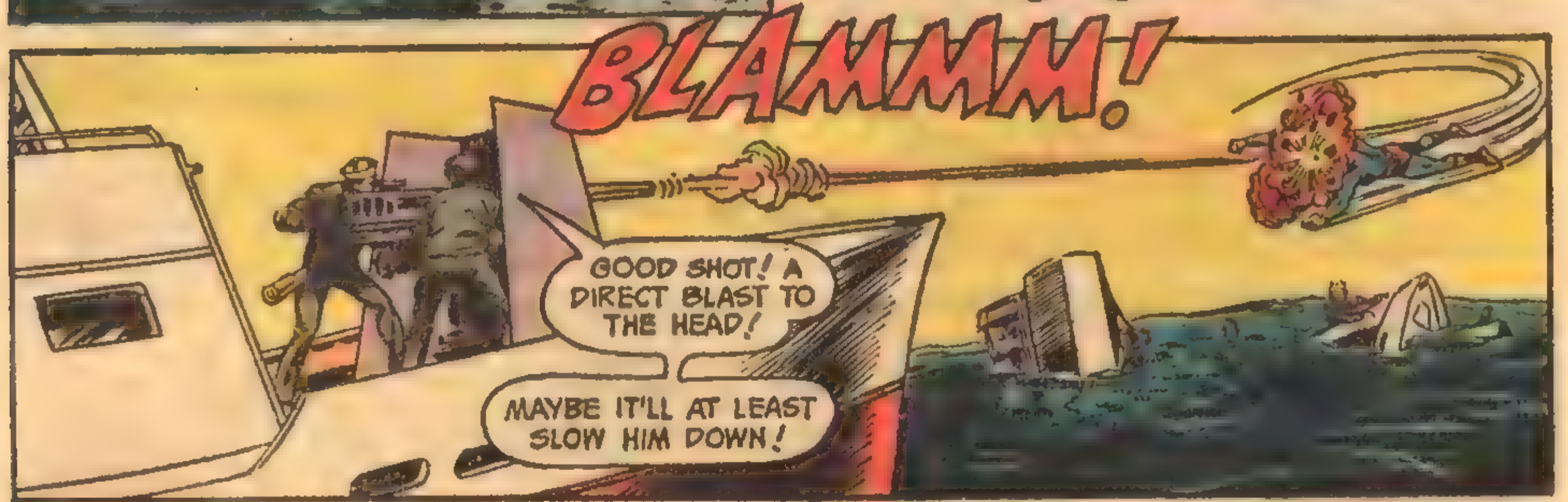
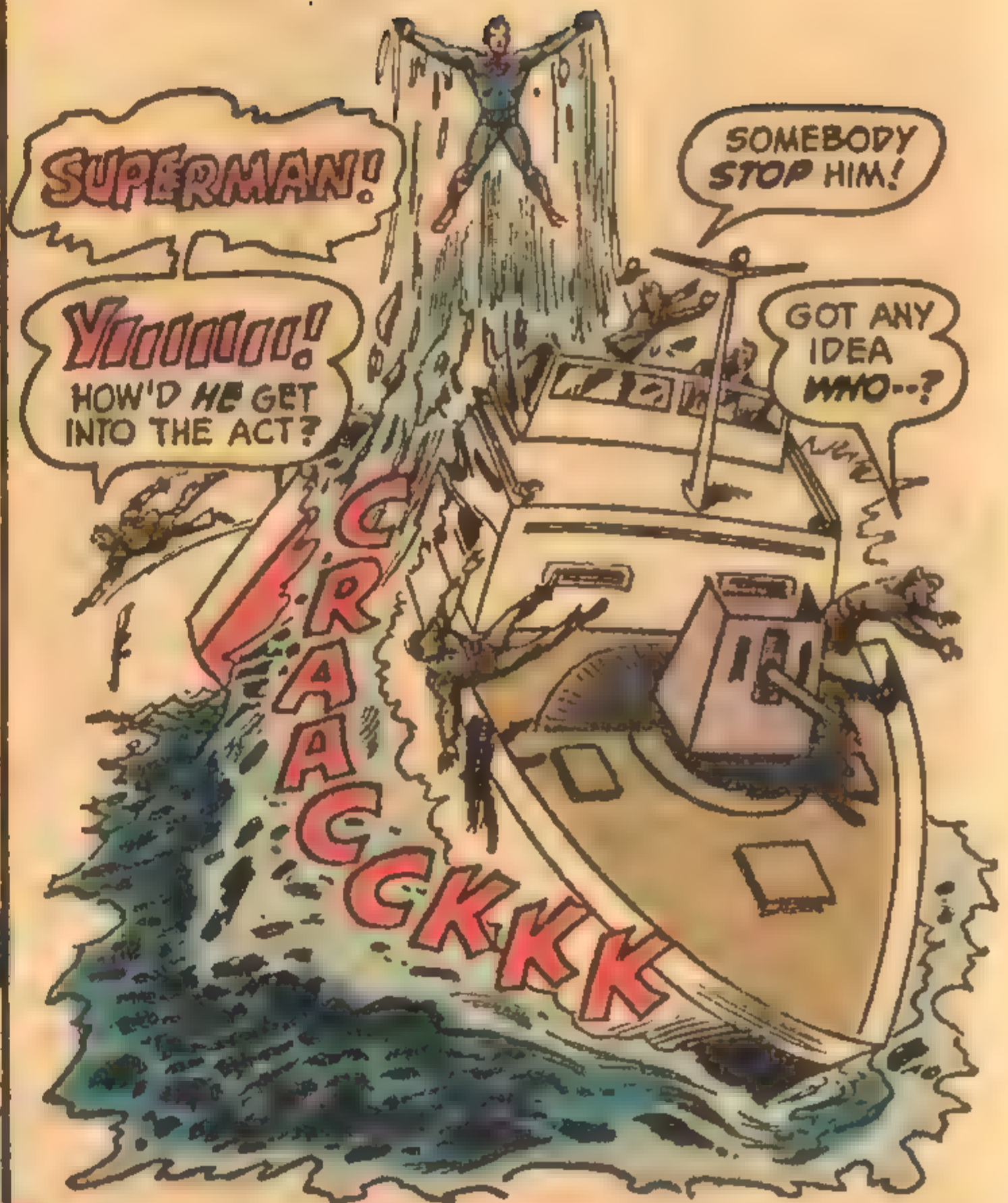
THE CAPE WILL ACT AS AN IMPENETRABLE SHIELD TO PROTECT CHRISTY FOR THE ONE MINUTE I'M GONE!

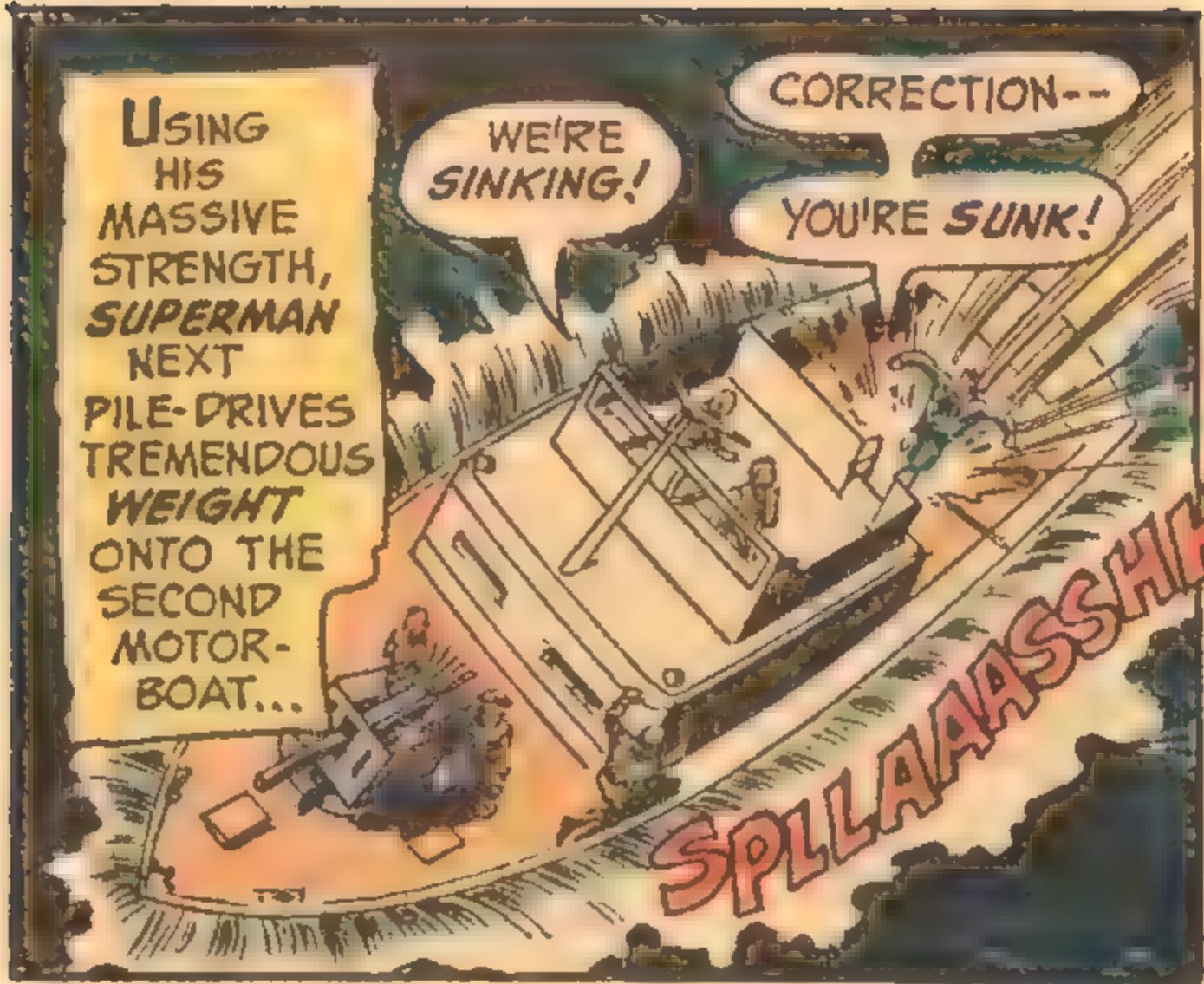


YES, THAT'S ALL I'LL NEED TO WASH OUT THOSE SEA-JACKERS!

BUT BECAUSE OF THE INVISIBLE BARRIER OVER THE ISLAND...

...I HAVE TO TAKE AN UNDER-GROUND ROUTE!





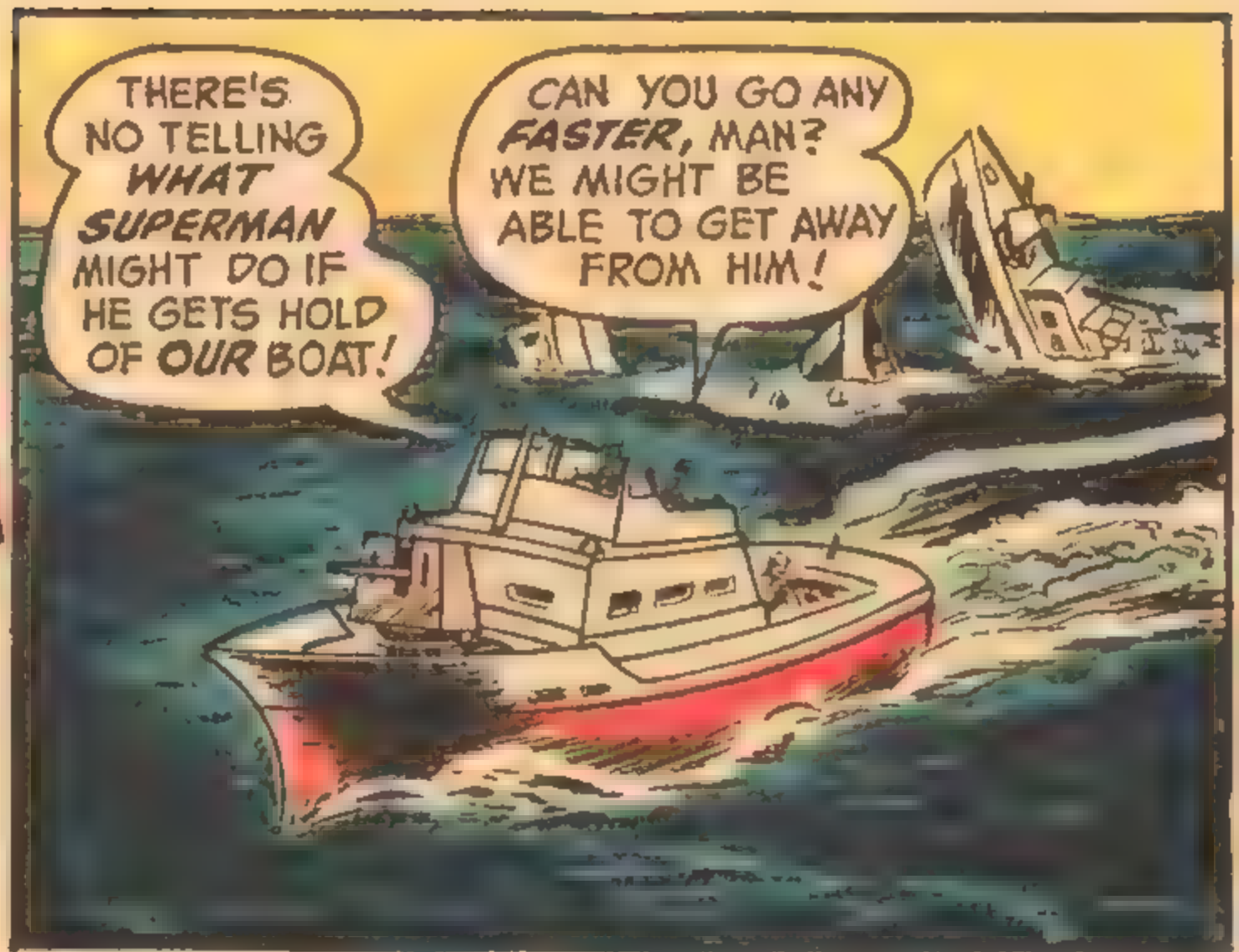
USING HIS MASSIVE STRENGTH, SUPERMAN NEXT PILE-DRIVES TREMENDOUS WEIGHT ONTO THE SECOND MOTOR-BOAT...

WE'RE SINKING!

CORRECTION--

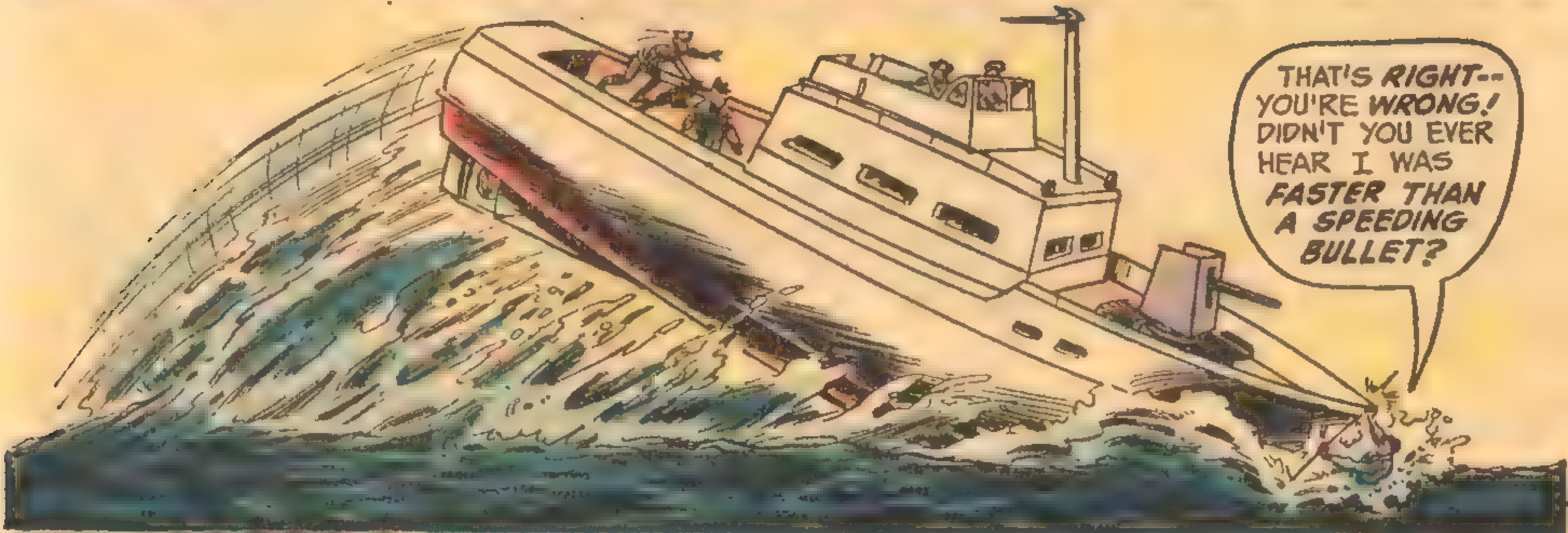
YOU'RE SUNK!

SPLAASSHHH



THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT SUPERMAN MIGHT DO IF HE GETS HOLD OF OUR BOAT!

CAN YOU GO ANY FASTER, MAN? WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET AWAY FROM HIM!



THAT'S RIGHT-- YOU'RE WRONG! DIDN'T YOU EVER HEAR I WAS FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET?



Eiiiiiiiiiii!

THAT SUPERMAN! HE'S A ONE-MAN NAVY! WE'RE SAFE FROM THOSE PIRATES NOW!..

STAND READY TO FISH THOSE SEA-JACKERS OUT OF THE WATER!

CAN'T... HOLD... ON...



SPLAASSHHH

"BE BACK IN A MINUTE," I TOLD CHRISTY... BUT I'VE GOT SECONDS TO SPARE!

Any 14 of these

If you join now and agree to buy ten more records (at regular Club prices)

hit records ONLY \$2.86

during the coming two years (you will have up to 300 records a month to choose from)



... if you join now, you may have ANY 14 of these records for only \$2.86. Just mail the application at the right, together with your check or money order for \$2.86 in exchange...

... and you may cancel membership at any time after doing so.

Your own charge account will be opened upon enrollment and the records you order as a member will be mailed and billed at the regular Club price of \$4.98 or \$5.98 each, plus processing and postage. (Multi-record sets are somewhat higher.)

every four weeks you will receive a new copy of the Club's music magazine, which describes the regular selection for each musical interest... plus hundreds of alternate selections.

If you do not want any record in any month, just return the selection card provided by the date specified

for your musical interest, you need do nothing — it will be shipped to you automatically

just order them on the selection card and return it by the date specified

we will offer some special albums, which you may reject by returning the special dated form provided... or accept by simply doing nothing.

upon completing your enrollment agreement — a plan which enables you to get one record of your choice free (only 25¢ for processing and postage) for every one you buy thereafter. Act now — fill in and mail the application today!

COLUMBIA RECORD CLUB, Terre Haute, Indiana 47804

I am enclosing one or more orders for \$2.86 in payment for the 14 records below. Please accept my membership application. I agree to purchase ten records at regular Club prices during the coming two years, and may cancel membership any time thereafter. If I continue, I'll be eligible for your bonus plan.

Send me a 14 records. I've enclosed check or money order for \$2.86.

Mr.	Mr.	Mr.	Mr.
Mrs.	Mrs.	Mrs.	Mrs.
Miss	Miss	Miss	Miss
Ms.	Ms.	Ms.	Ms.

All records will be described in advance in the magazine sent to you by the club. I do not wish to be bound by the selection card by the date specified... or use the card to order any record I want. If I want only the regular selection for my musical interest, I need do nothing — it will be sent automatically. From time to time, I'll be offered special albums which I may accept or reject by using the dated form provided.

Mr.	Mr.	Mr.	Mr.
Mrs.	Mrs.	Mrs.	Mrs.
Miss	Miss	Miss	Miss
Ms.	Ms.	Ms.	Ms.

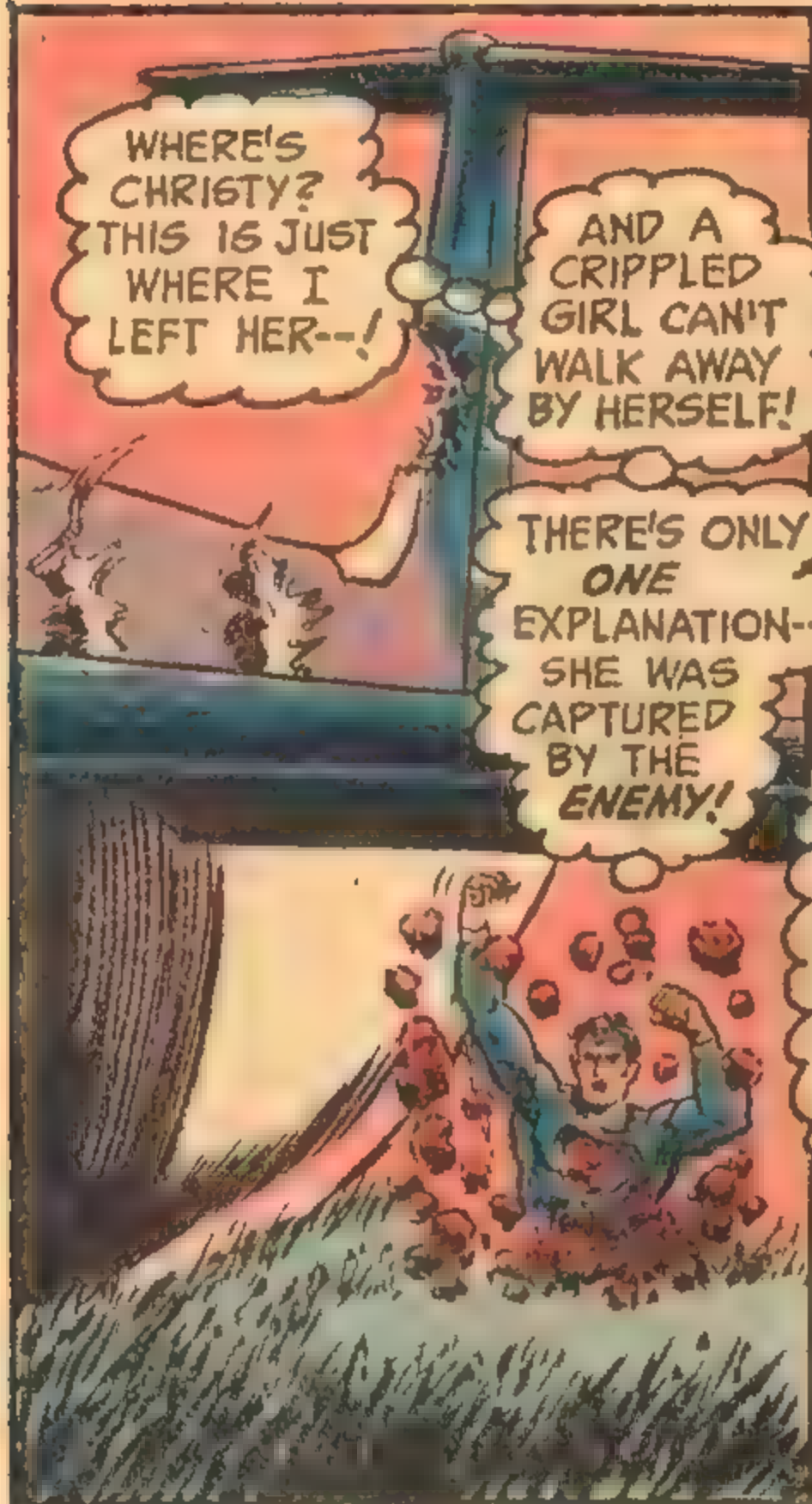
Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Do you have a telephone check one ☐ YES ☐ NO

Columbia House



WHERE'S CHRISTY?
THIS IS JUST
WHERE I
LEFT HER--!

AND A CRIPPLED
GIRL CAN'T
WALK AWAY
BY HERSELF!

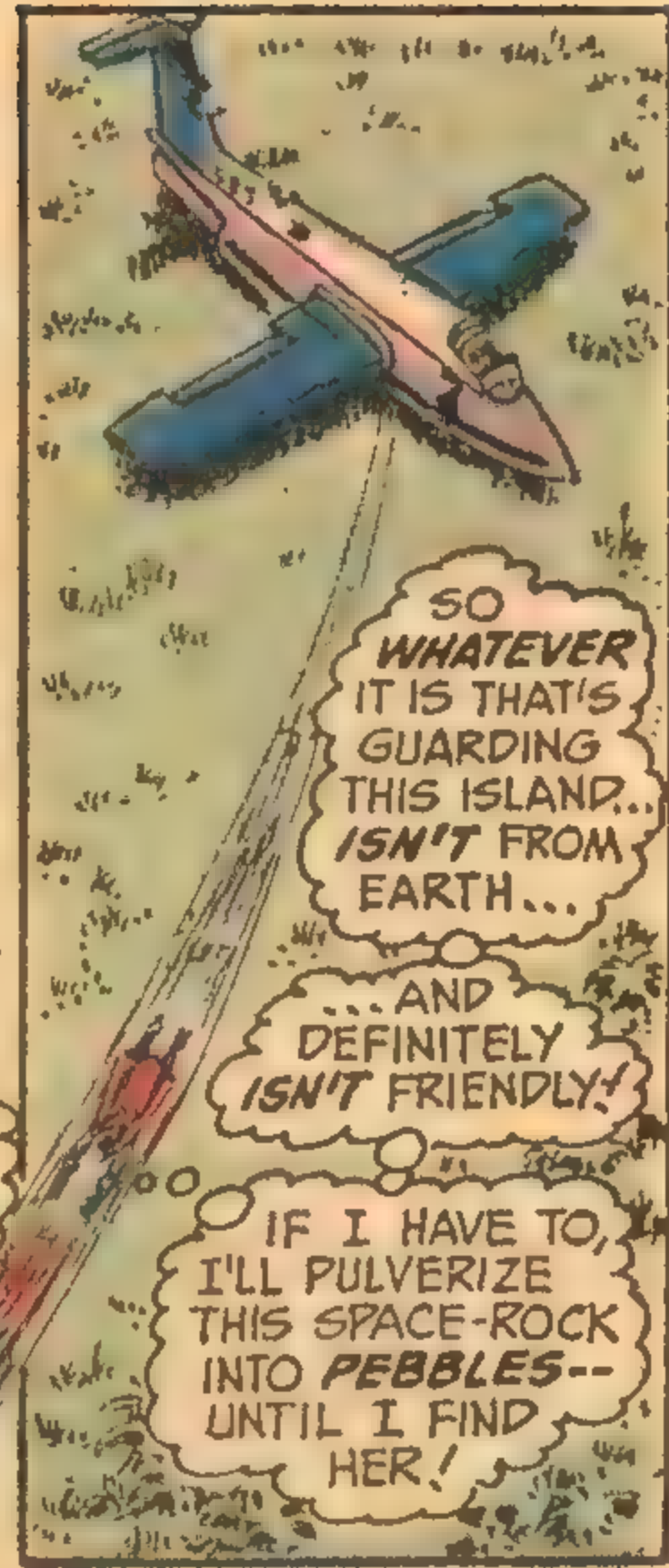
THERE'S ONLY
ONE
EXPLANATION--
SHE WAS
CAPTURED
BY THE
ENEMY!



WHEN I
BURROWED
DOWNWARD
TO AVOID
THE FORCE-
FIELD, I
SAW THIS
ISN'T AN
ISLAND AT
ALL...

...BUT A
LARGE
METEOR...

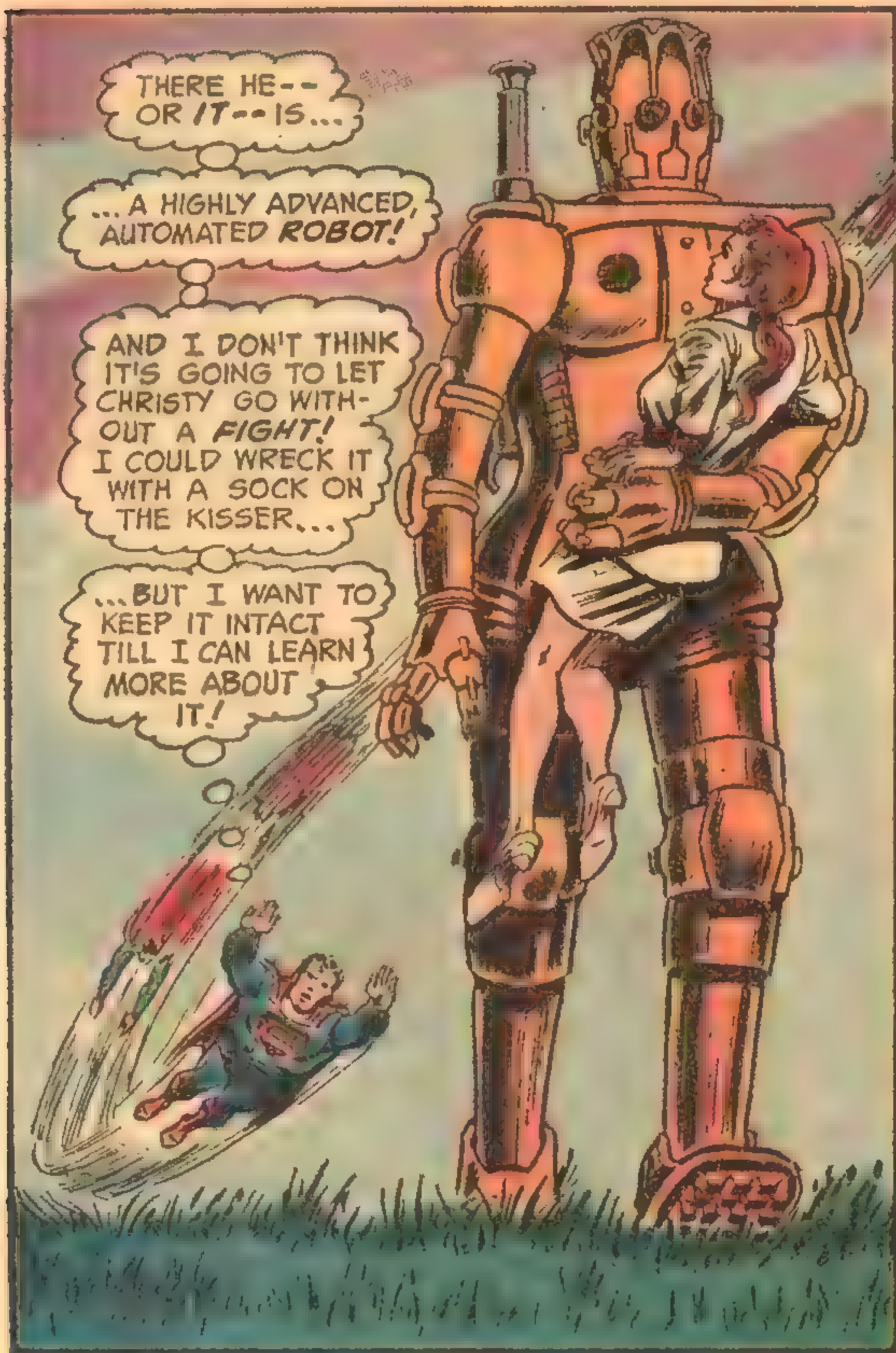
...THAT MUST
HAVE PLUNGED
THROUGH THE
ATMOSPHERE
AGES AGO...
AND FLOATED
ON THE OCEAN
EVER SINCE!



SO
WHATEVER
IT IS THAT'S
GUARDING
THIS ISLAND...
ISN'T FROM
EARTH...

...AND
DEFINITELY
ISN'T FRIENDLY!

IF I HAVE TO,
I'LL PULVERIZE
THIS SPACE-ROCK
INTO **PEBBLES--**
UNTIL I FIND
HER!

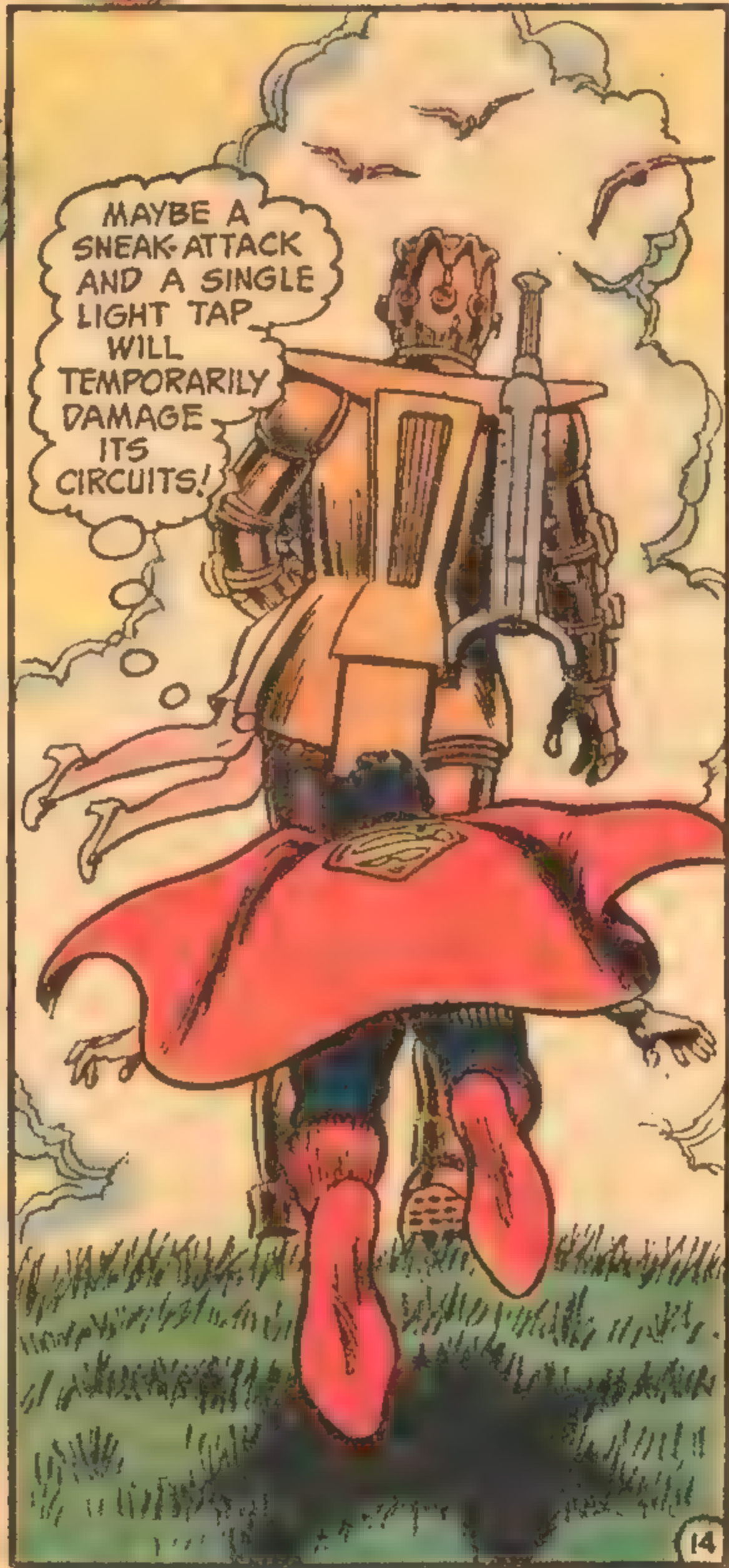


THERE HE--
OR **IT--** IS...

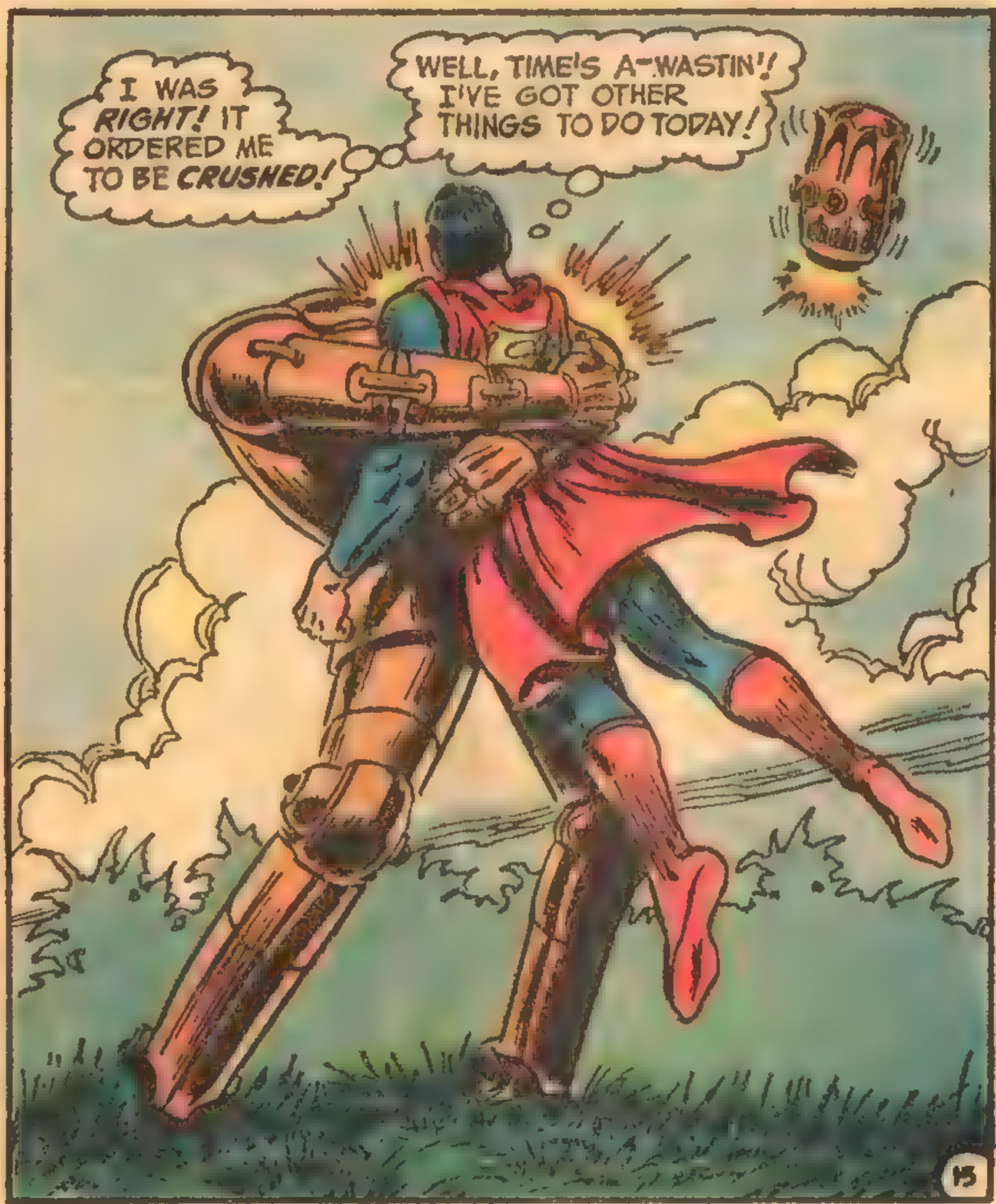
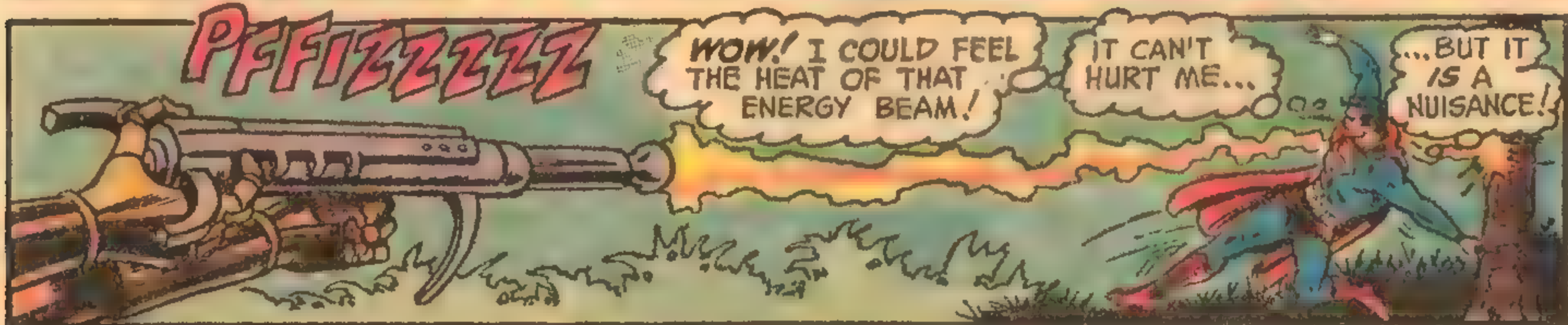
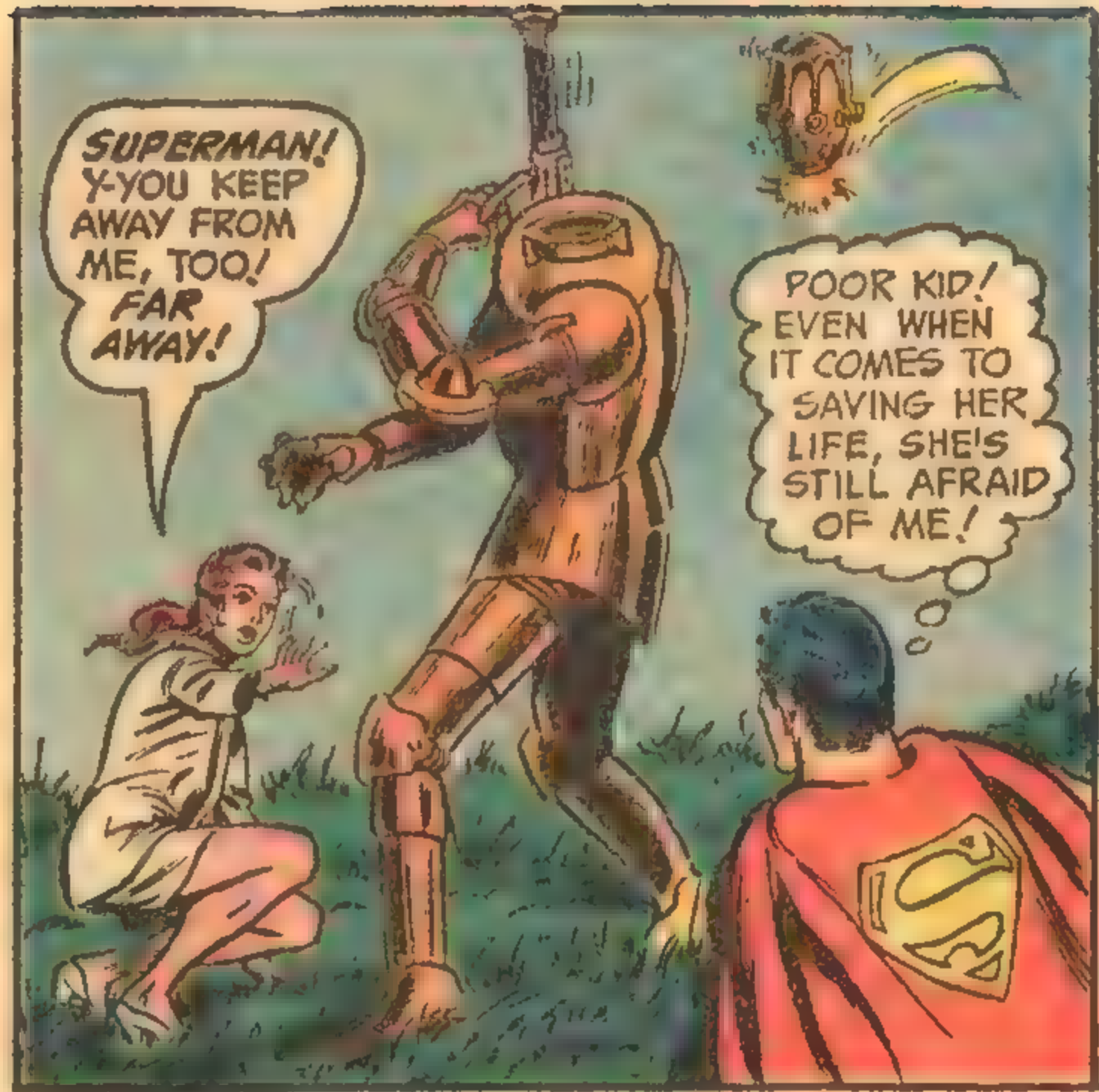
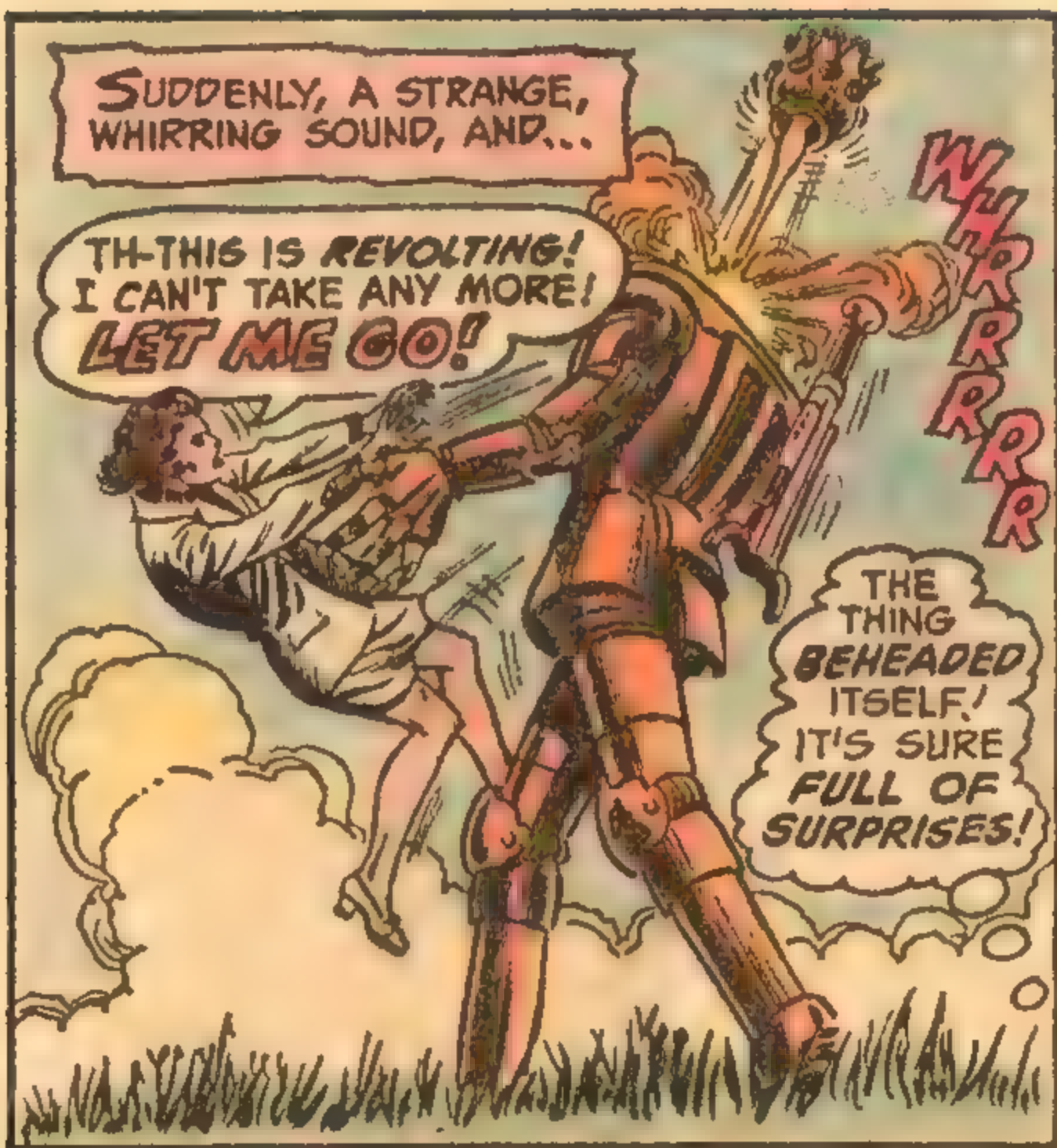
...A HIGHLY ADVANCED,
AUTOMATED **ROBOT!**

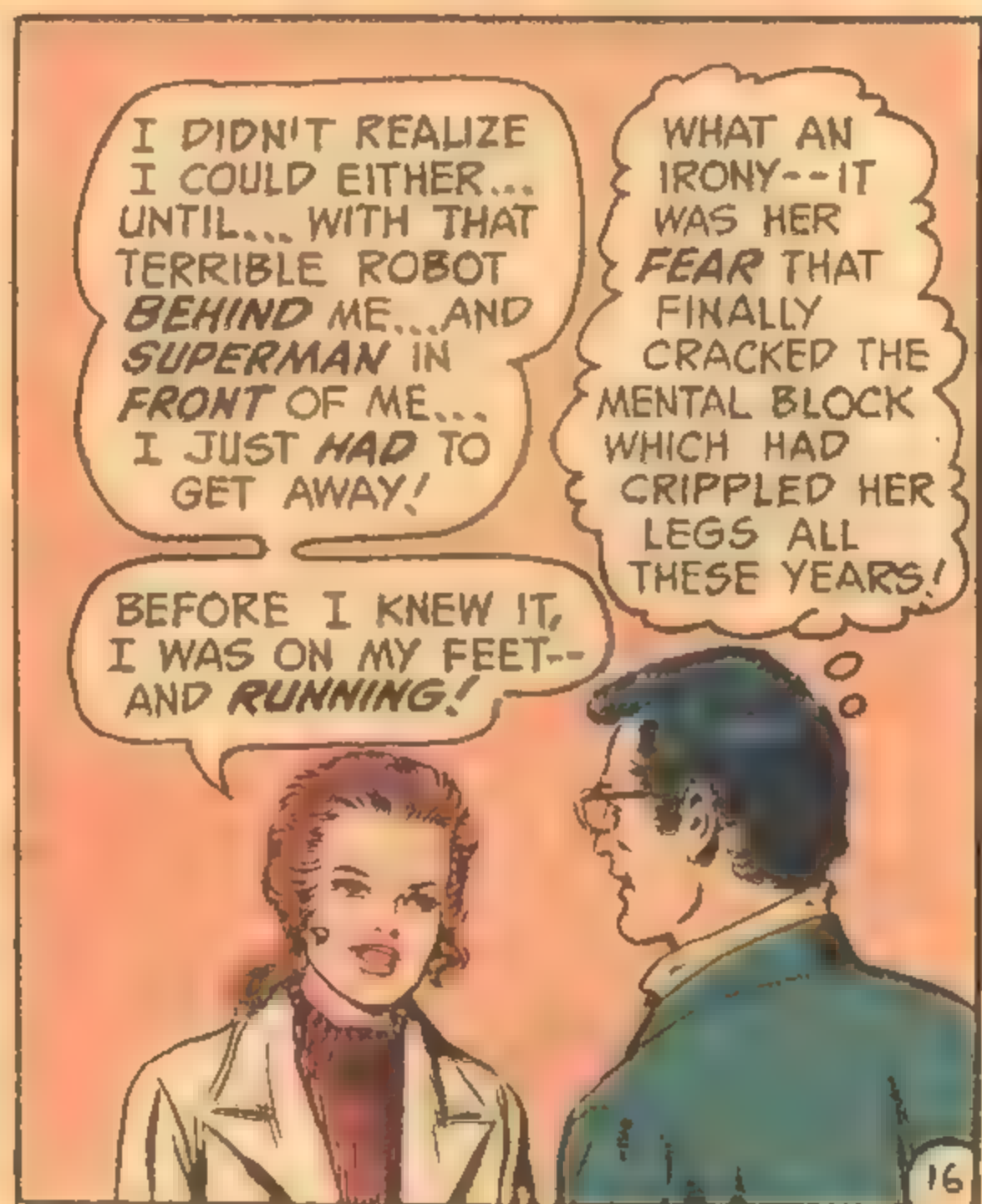
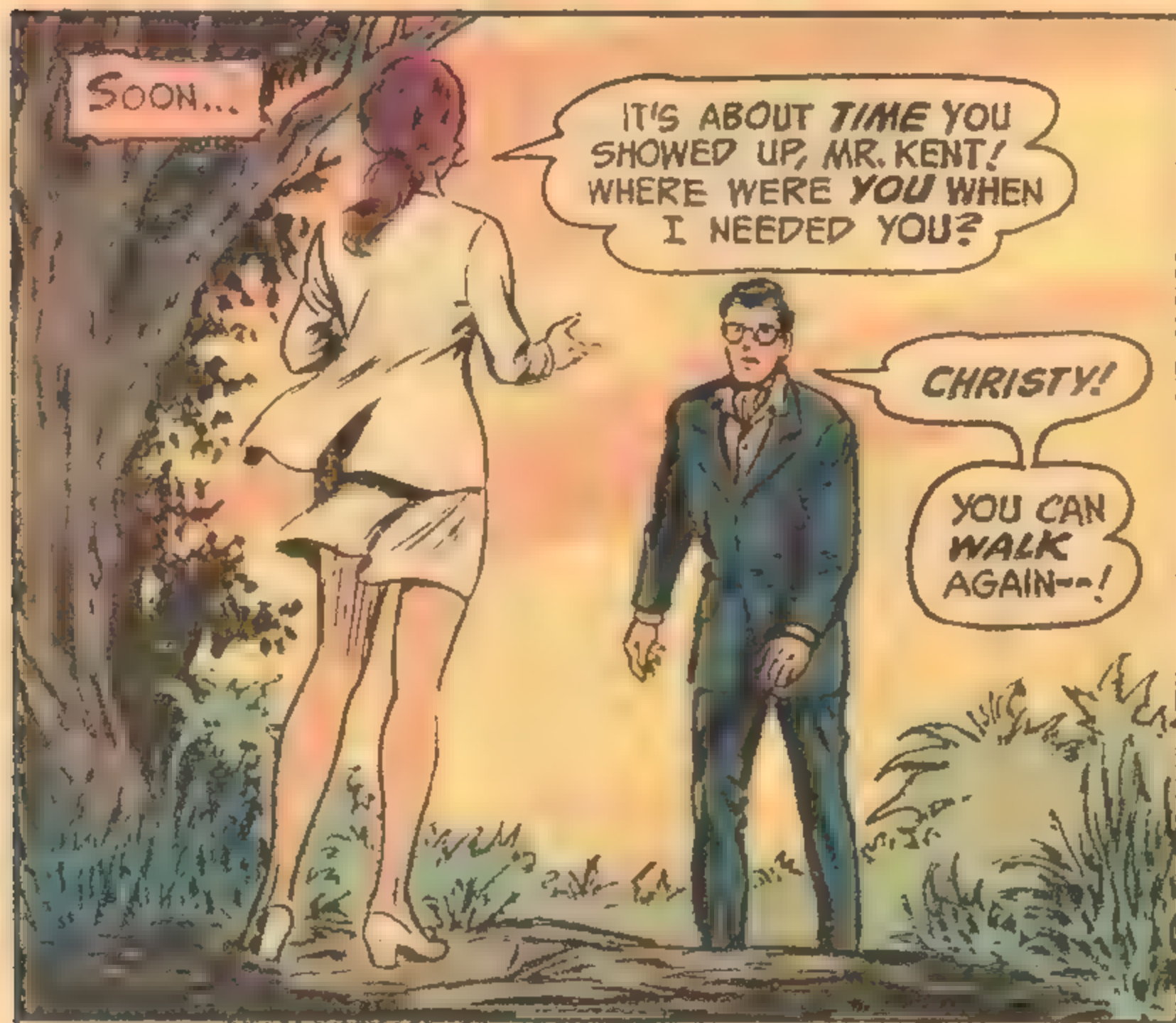
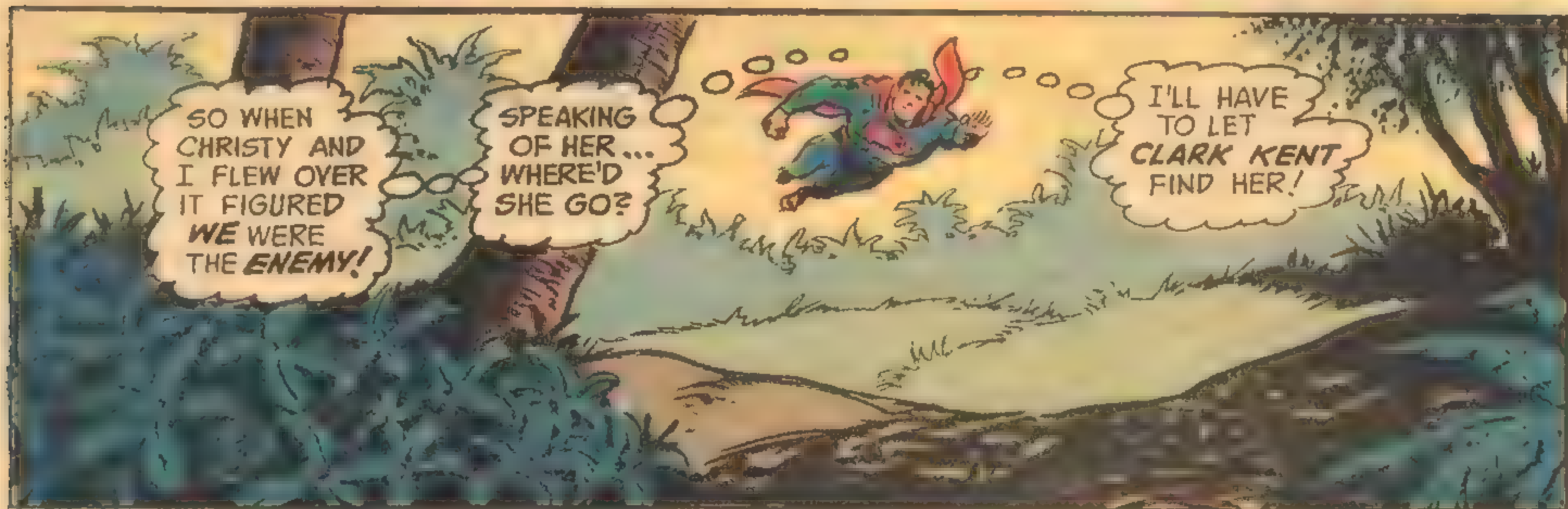
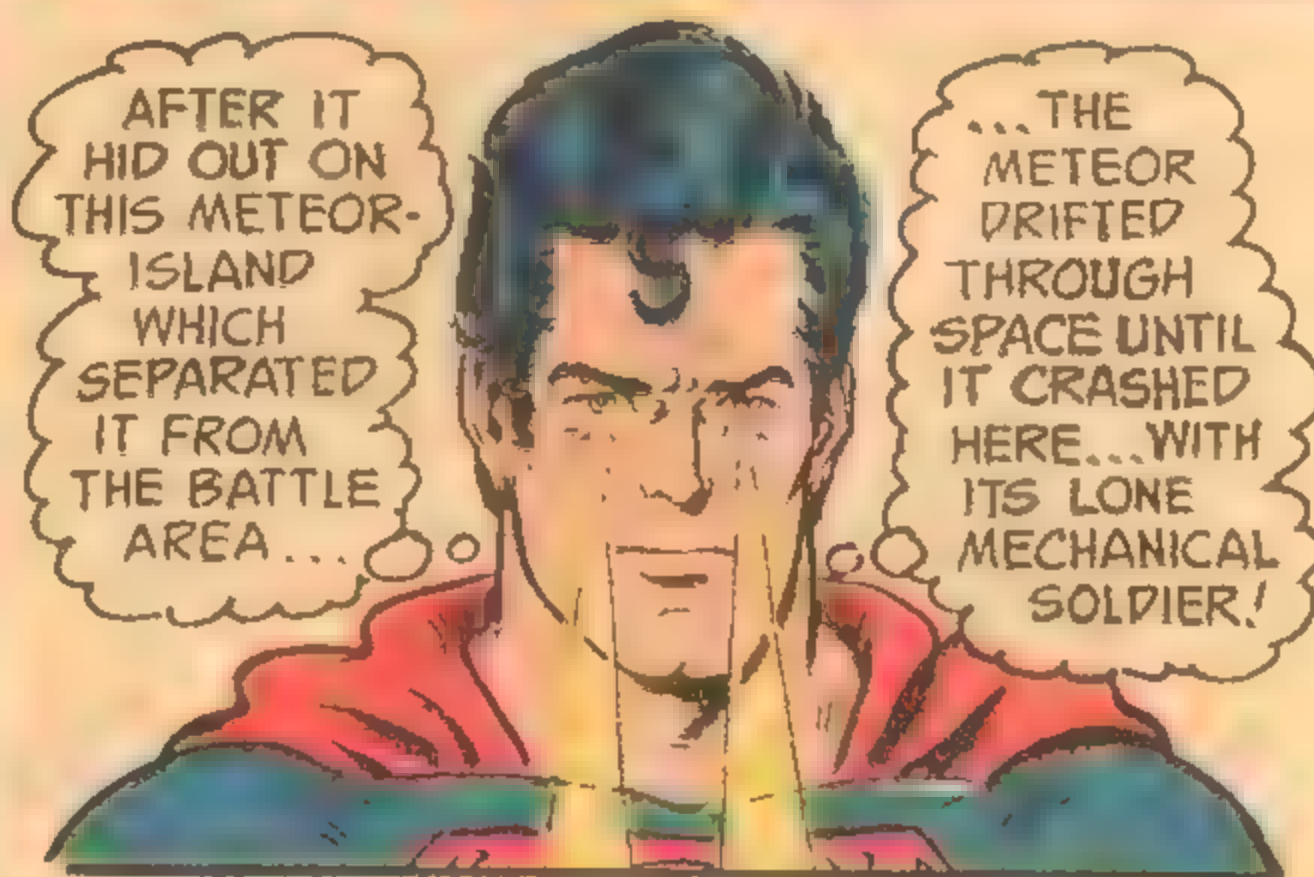
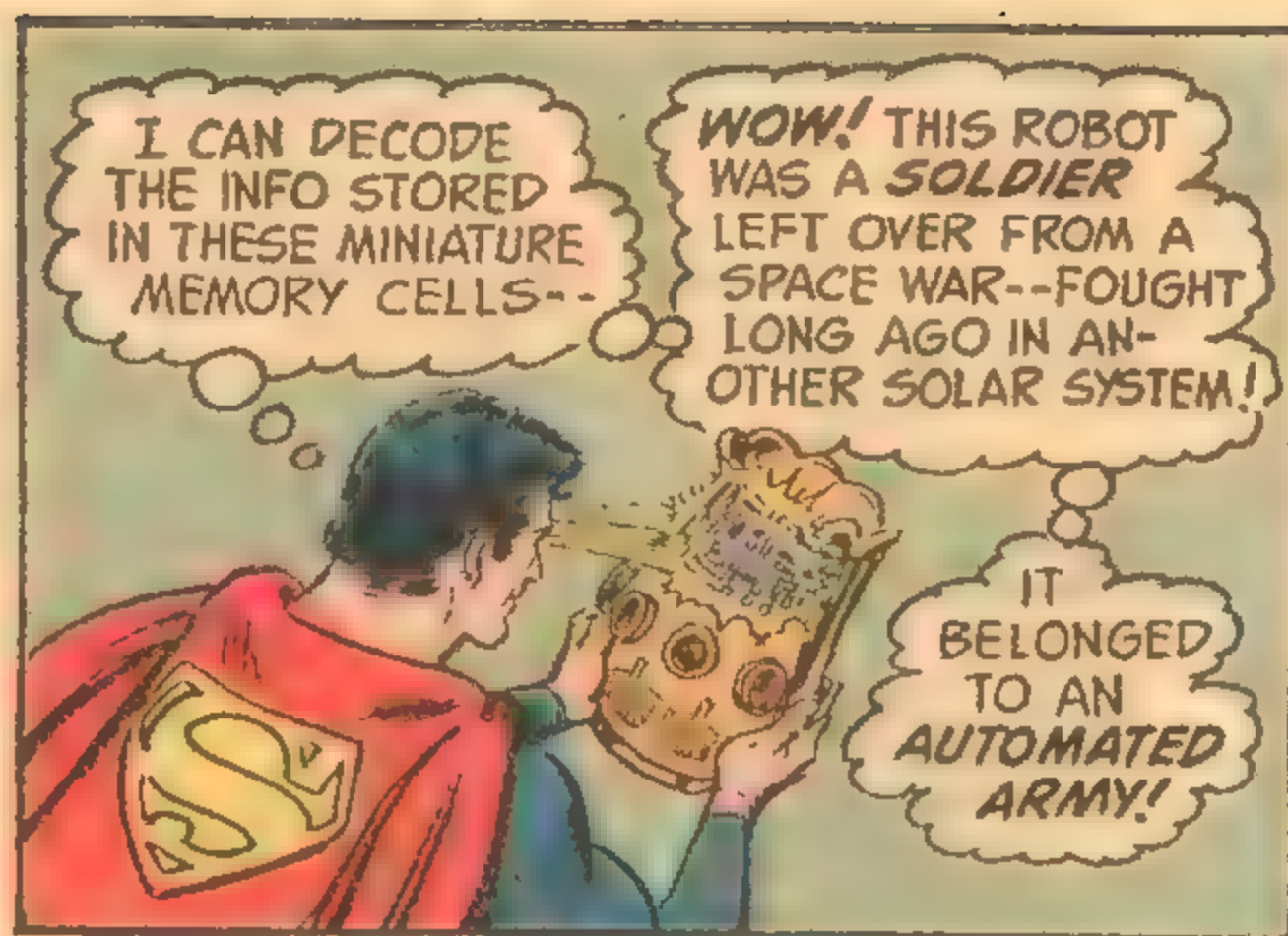
AND I DON'T THINK
IT'S GOING TO LET
CHRISTY GO WITH-
OUT A **FIGHT!**
I COULD WRECK IT
WITH A SOCK ON
THE KISSER...

...BUT I WANT TO
KEEP IT INTACT
TILL I CAN LEARN
MORE ABOUT
IT!



MAYBE A
SNEAK-ATTACK
AND A SINGLE
LIGHT TAP
WILL
TEMPORARILY
DAMAGE
ITS
CIRCUITS!





SOON...

THAT RADIO WASN'T DAMAGED
...SO I CONTACTED THE SHIP!
WE'LL BE PICKED UP WITHIN
THE HOUR!

WHY ARE
YOU
CARRYING
THAT
SUITCASE?

BUT I THOUGHT
THE COLLECTION
WAS ON
BOARD THE
"QUEEN"?

FAKES--A PRECAUTION
AGAINST THEFT! THESE
ARE THE **GENUINE**!

THE BOSS WANTED
ME TO DELIVER
THEM IN EXCHANGE
FOR GIVING WGBS-
TV EXCLUSIVE
RIGHTS TO THE
STORY!

EVERYBODY
FIGURED A **MEEK**
GUY LIKE ME
WOULD **NEVER**
BE SUSPECTED
OF SECRETLY
CARRYING A
FORTUNE IN
DIAMONDS!

DAYS LATER,
AS THE
LUXURY
LINER
DOCKS AT
METROPOLIS
HARBOR...



IN SPITE OF YOUR **FAULTS**,
CLARK, I'VE REALLY GROWN
TO **LIKE** YOU! THIS COULD
BE THE START OF A
BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP!



THAT'S ALL
I NEED TO
COMPLICATE
MY LIFE--

A GIRL WHO
HATES SUPERMAN...
AND **ADORES**
CLARK KENT!

THE COMPLICATIONS
HAVE ONLY **BEGUN**,
CLARK! YOUR LIVES
WILL CROSS AGAIN
SOON...IN ONE OF
THE **SUPERMAN**
FAMILY MAGAZINES!

D
DINEST
C
COMIC

50¢

LEONARD RICE BURROUGHS
PRESENTS

Tarzan



THE ORIGINAL

APE-MAN

SHOUTS A CHALLENGE...

WHICH IS
ANSWERED BY

DANGER!

EXCITEMENT!

ADVENTURE!

IN THIS **BIG BOOK** OF

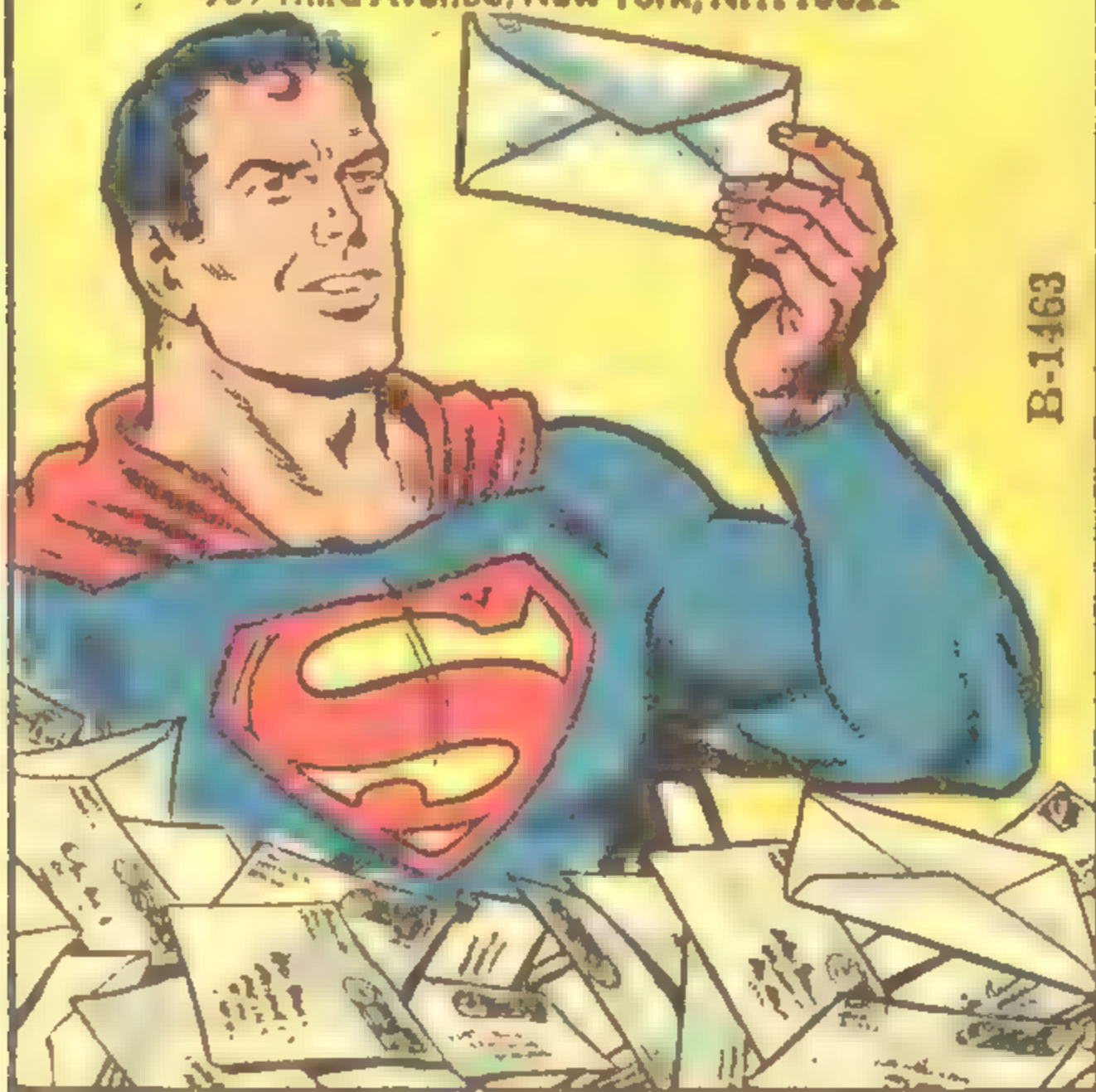
Tarzan

160 PAGES **50¢**

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WHERE THE ACTION IS

National Periodical Publications, Inc.
909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022



B-1463

Dear Editor:

ACTION 412 was a well-done issue—not a “classic” by any means, but nonetheless well done. The opening story, “Secret of the First Metropolis,” is introduced by a colorful cover showing Metropolis above and a beautiful futuristic city below, complete with a Mesozoic reptile peeking from behind a distant mountain.

The cover story was an entertaining tale whose highlights included the unraveling of the fate of Josdin, the contaminated eggs, and the time paradox mentioned on page 10. The Swan-Anderson art is the definitive illustration of Superman.

The six-page vignette, “Menace of the Sky-Scorchers,” recalled to me those stories in the late 1940's in which a seemingly cataclysmic menace found a simple solution. Some may say the story was a soap-opera, but I think you maintained a credible level of dry eyes.

I was reading Eclipso when he was moulting all over HOUSE OF SECRETS, and upon reviewing his exploits in ACTION, I find my opinion of him to be basically the same. Though the man-into-beast formula has been well-trodden, the character's scripting makes for good science-fiction reading. “Duel of the Divided Man” was an exciting tale. The transmutations were expected, and yet the dialogue and reactions made the scenes seem spontaneous.

David Dasch, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Well, Eclipso has left ACTION, but there's a chance he may be one of the villains featured in WANTED—that is, if enough of you readers WANT him. —Ed.



Dear Editor:

It all began with a seven-page short story in ACTION #410. Another followed in #411 and a third in #412. Now, please tell us . . . who is this Calnan fellow who is doing such a great job teaming with Murphy Anderson? With your ever-present policy of “telling it like it is,” how about giving us readers a brief biography of this new artist? I, for one, think he's great!!

Greg W. Myers, Lima, Ohio

John Calnan is the art director of a prominent agency. But he's been devoting his spare time to comics for quite a while now. He may be new to ACTION, but not to DC, as readers of WITCHING HOUR, GHOSTS and UNEXPECTED can attest. Watch for more of his work in those titles. —Ed.



Dear Editor:

The idea behind “Secret of the First Metropolis” may have been good, but the story was an underdeveloped disaster. For starters, the opening scene was too unrealistic; having the creature fall on the tracks just in time to meet the train Clark Kent just happens to be riding is but a corn-fed gimmick (he should have been found in an out-of-the-way locale by a drifter or some kids).

The location of the First Metropolis kills the story's believability factor, for you neglected to allow for the standard depth of the subway system and of the basement complexes in most office buildings. The key weakness of the story was the shallow development of Josdin; he should have known more than he was willing to tell. You also did not provide a reason for his mutation: was it because he was infected before he was sealed in the shell, or was the condition contagious, or did he infect himself after he returned to his time?

“The Menace of the Sky-Scorchers” was a good second feature. Its only technical error was the satellite hitting the tanker. The impact should have blown the ship in half.

William G. Laks, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Sorry—neither writer Cary Bates nor artist Curt Swan had ever seen a satellite fall on a ship. —Ed.



Dear Editor:

While reading #412, I finally realized what it is about the Superman series that appeals to me. It's that each episode is a story, as opposed to being an adventure. That is, each episode tells a complete, individual and well-thought-out tale instead of falling into the rut of merely throwing a super-villain against a super-hero and letting them battle it out for 20 pages.

“Secret of the First Metropolis” was an excellent example of this. Superman was placed in a situation which was plausible, interesting, and different from his previous exploits. The setting was new, the foes unique, and the problem original. The changelings were as unexpected as they were logical (although why Josdin changed by merely returning in time is left unexplained).

“The Menace of the Sky-Scorchers” was a harmless bit of Supie-as-good-guy fluff and as such was a pleasant way to spend a couple of minutes. “The Superman Legend” was quite welcome. Even though I've been reading the Superman stories off and on since the late fifties, I found it most informative, and I'm sure new fans will find it invaluable.

David B. Michelinie, Jeffersonville, Ind.

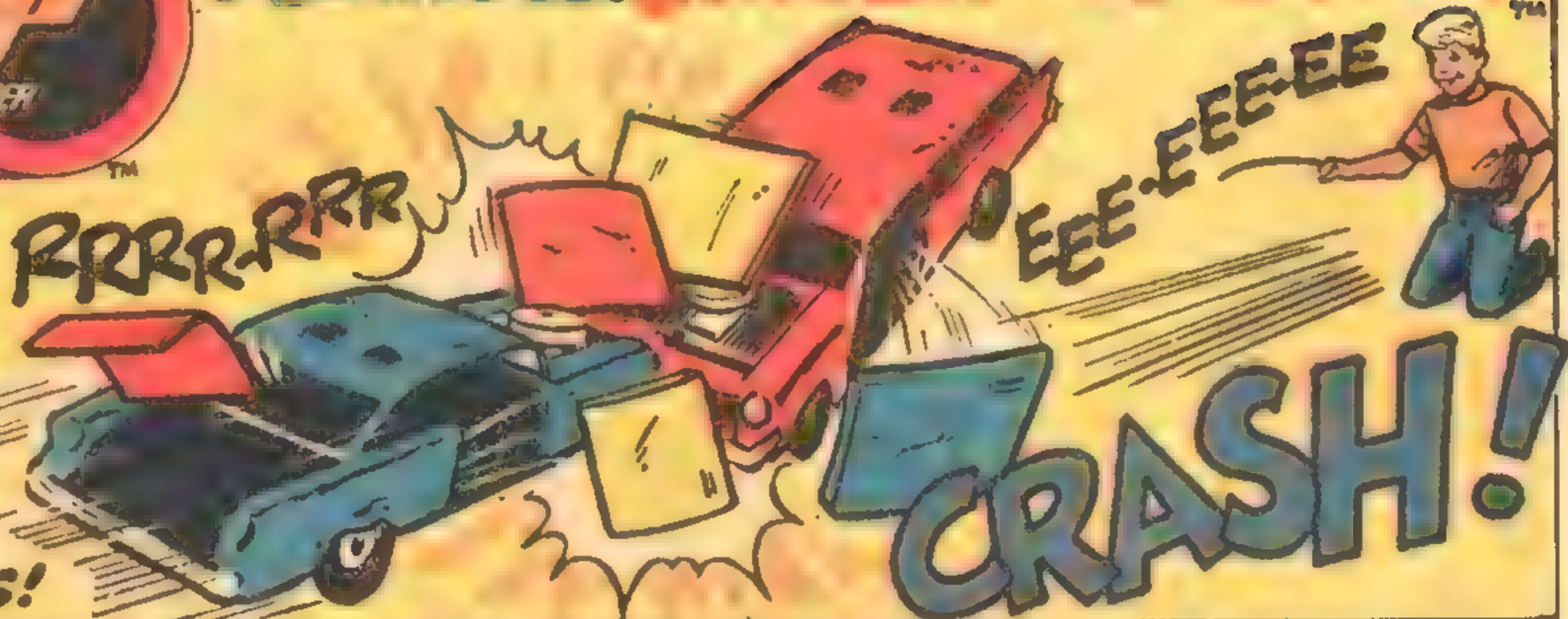
Now you know our secret—WE TELL STORIES! After all, how many ways can two guys hit each other? And with Superman, if the other fellow isn't super, the fight could end on the first page! Not that we want to make the stories all plot and talk—the title of this mag is ACTION, as certain readers keep reminding us! —Ed.



Kenneth. SMASH-UP Derby



**SOUNDS LIKE
REAL RACERS!**



HEY! YOU GUYS
ARE SMASHING UP
YOUR SSP RACERS!

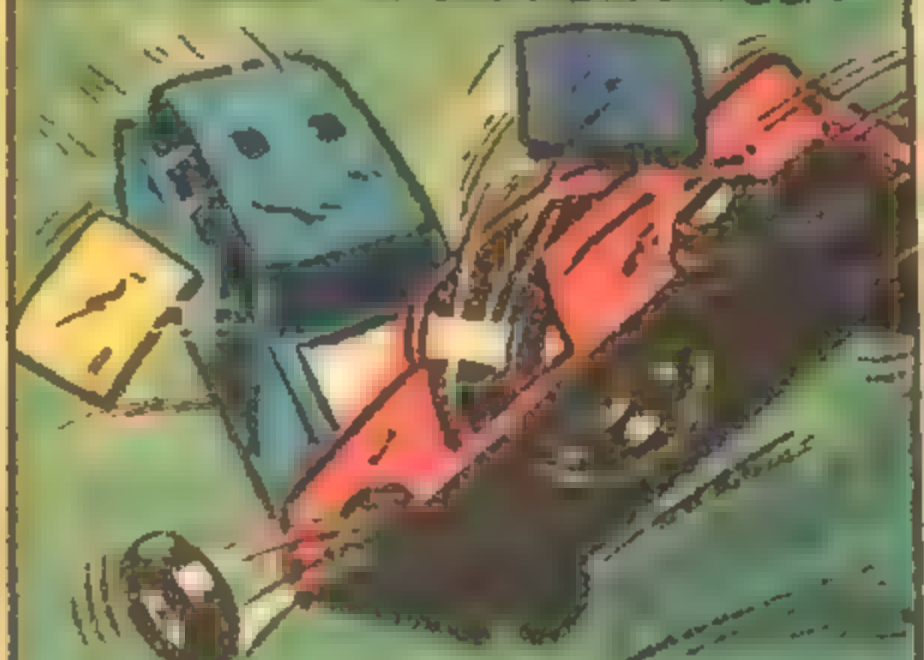
YOU KNOW IT!
WE'VE GOT THE
SSP SMASH-
UP DERBY!

"WITH RACERS THAT WORK
JUST LIKE ALL SSP CARS...



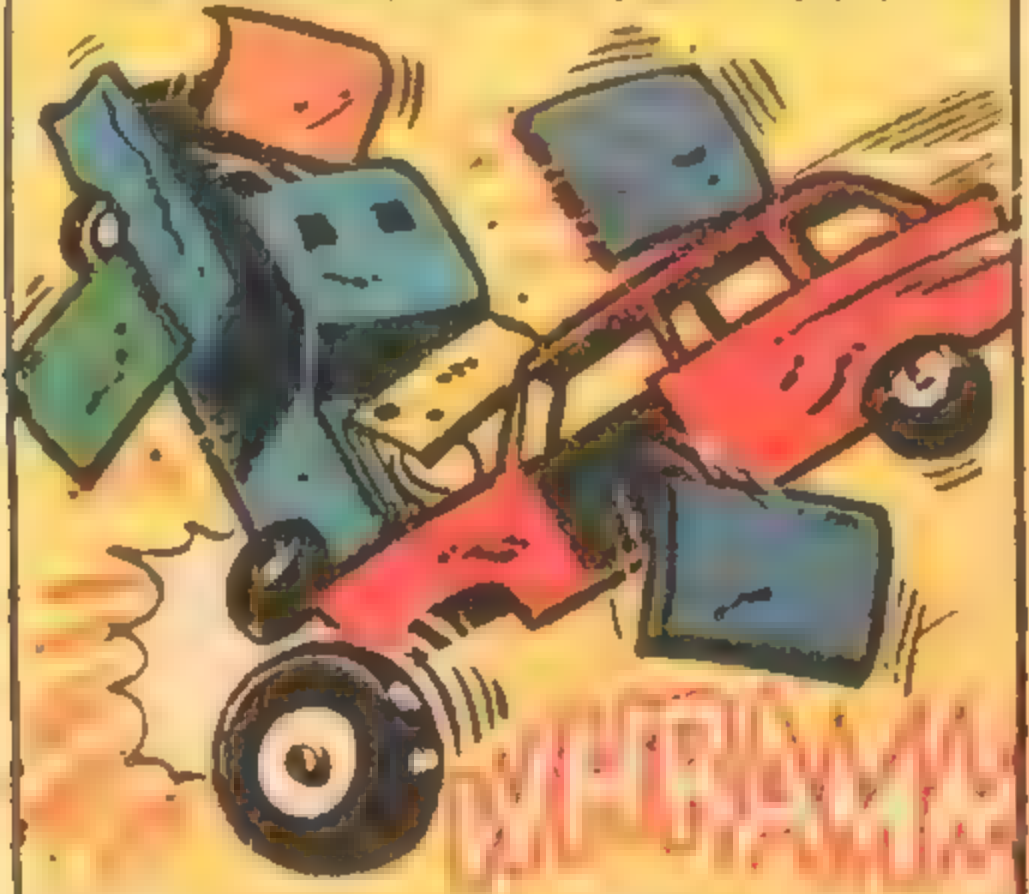
**GYRO-POWERED!
NO BATTERIES! NO MOTOR!
WITH SONIC SOUND...
THE HOWL OF POWER!**

BUT WHAT A DIFFERENCE!



DOORS, HOOD, WHEELS, TRUNK
LID FLY OFF ON IMPACT!

"THE BIGGER THE SMASH-UP...
THE MORE PIECES FLY OFF!"



"AFTER ANY COLLISION-
JUST SNAP TOGETHER
AND YOU'RE READY
AGAIN!"



"WE USE THE JUMP RAMP/BARRIER
THAT COMES WITH THE SET TO DO ALL
KINDS OF SMASH-UP DERBY STUNTS!"

LEAPS



HILLTOP SMASHES



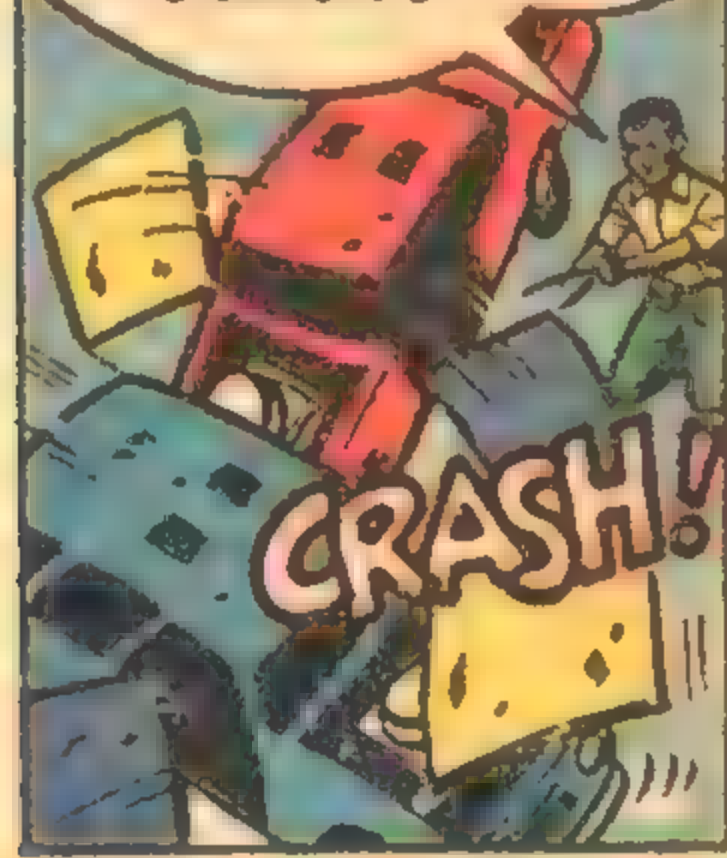
MID-AIR SCRUNCHERS



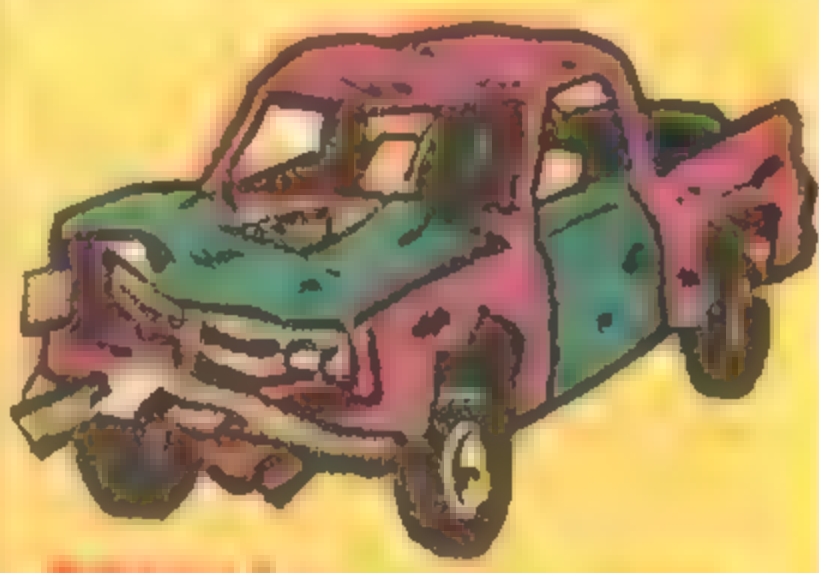
RAMP CRASHES



BOY, IT'S GOT ALL THE
THRILLS OF A
REAL DEMOLITION
DERBY!



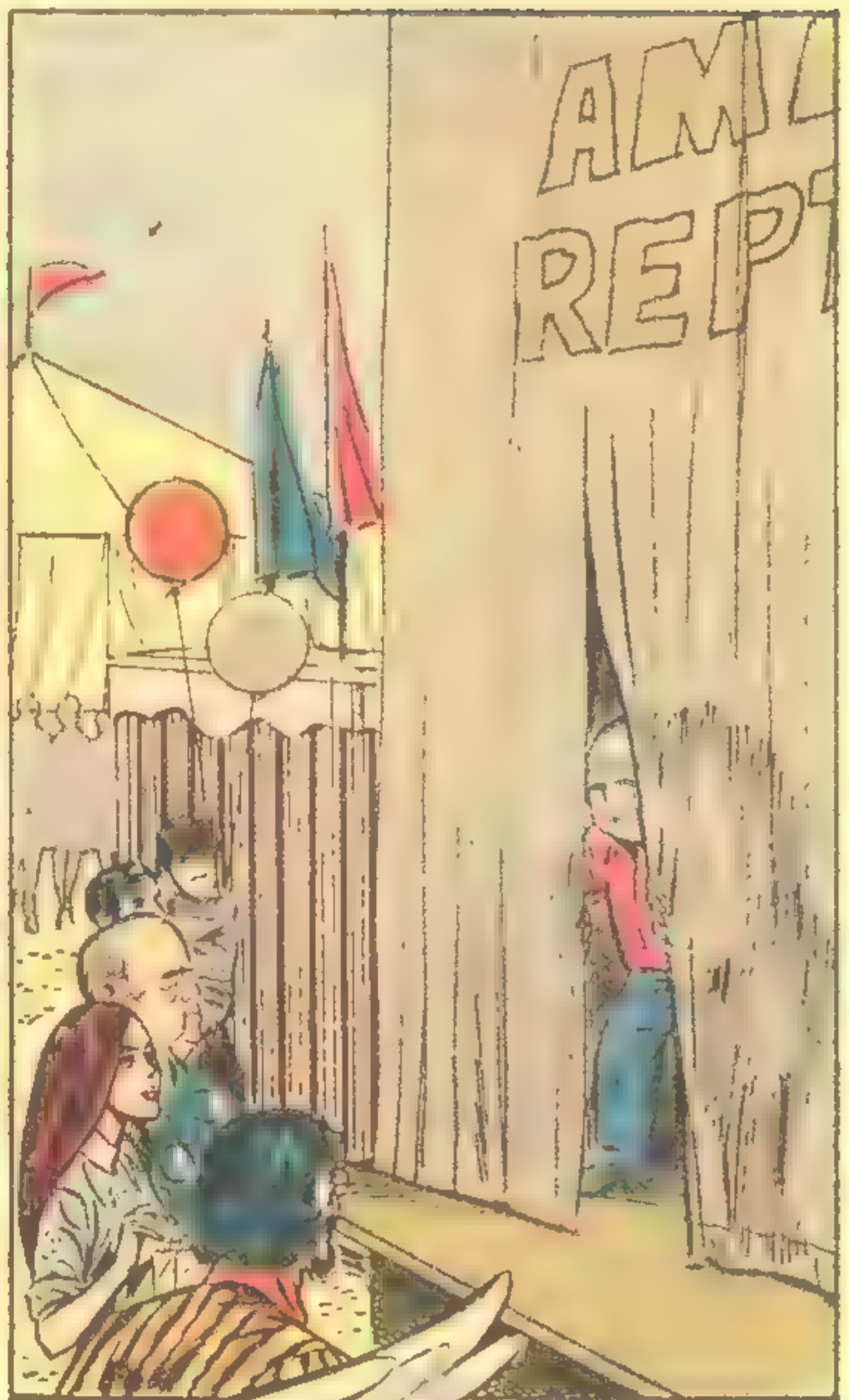
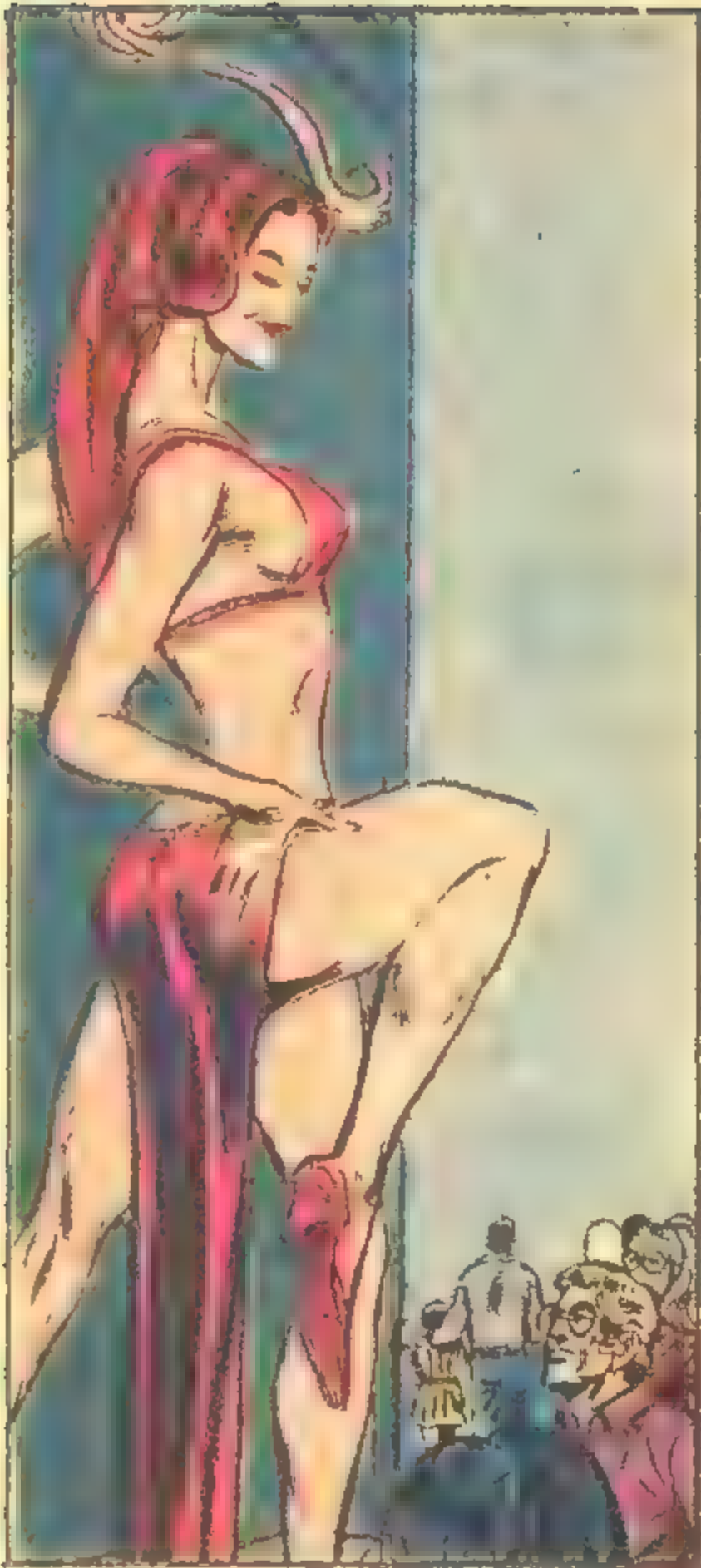
ADDITIONAL SSP SMASH-UP DERBY INCLUDES:
2 SPECIAL FLY APART SSP RACERS EACH ABOUT .7"
LONG WITH SCRUNCHED-UP DETAILING. HAVE
HIDDEN GYRO-WHEEL WITH POWER SLOTS IN ROOF.
2 JUMP RAMP/BARRIER SIMULATED BRICK WALL WITH
RAMP TO LEAP UP TO 4 FEET. 2 POWER HANDLE T STICKS.



**MINI! SMASH-UP DERBY
INCLUDES ADDITIONAL!**
4 MODELS...TOUGH TOM
(ILLUSTRATED), BUGGEM,
BOSS HENRY, BLAST-EM!
**SMASH 'EM, PUT 'EM
BACK AGAIN!**

THE CIRCUS!

AND ALWAYS PART OF IT, THE SIDESHOW!
THE FREAKSHOW! THE BIZARRE, THE GROTESQUE,
THE ETERNALLY FASCINATING....!



B-1439



CALCIUM
BIRD WINGS
AND A COBALT
FISH-TAIL
OUGHT TO
GRAB THESE
RUBES--!

HMMMPH,
I SEEN BETTER,
MABEL--BACK
IN 1939!

I WANT
A HOT DOG,
CHARLIE!

HEY, KIDS, LET'S
GO INSIDE THE
TENT! THE ACROBATS
GOTTA BE BETTER
THAN THIS!

YEAH, FREAKS
IS NOWHERE--!

ART:
JOHN
CALNAN

MARTINGALE
CIRCUS
PROUDLY PRESENTS
THE ORIGINAL FANTABULOUS
METAMORPHO
THE
ELEMENT MAN
IN
'OH, PITY,
WHERE IS
THY STING?'

JUST WHAT IS REX MASON,
FORMER SOLDIER OF FORTUNE
TURNED **ELEMENT MAN**, DOING
IN A SECOND-RATE CIRCUS
SIDESHOW? WELL, **METAMANIACS**,
IT ALL BEGAN ONE DAY RECENTLY...

SAPPHIRE! I'M TIRED,
I'M UNHAPPY...AND WORSE,
I'M **BORED** HANGIN'
AROUND THIS
GLOOMY PILE!

WE'RE GETTING
MARRIED...PRONTO!

OH, REX, I'M RIGHT IN THE
MIDDLE OF PLOTTING MY WHOLE
YEAR'S HOROSCOPE WITH **DR.**
SCORPIO! IF THE STARS SAY I
SHOULD CONTEMPLATE
MARRIAGE, THEN
WE'LL SEE...

FLIPPY CHICK! SHE
DOESN'T LOVE ME--!
MAYBE SHE DID **ONCE--**
BEFORE I BECAME
THIS WAY!

YEAH, THAT'S
THE REAL REASON
--HOW COULD I
EXPECT ANY GIRL
TO MARRY A...
FREAK!

SLAM!

NOBODY'S IMMUNE TO SELF-PITY,
NOT EVEN THE **ELEMENT MAN!**
AND RIGHT NOW, HE'S DROWNING
IN IT--!

SO LONG, **SAPPH-BABY...**
SO LONG, **STAGG**, YOU OLD
CRUMB! GOOD-BY TO BEING
YOUR PET **FREAK--!**

GOOD-BY TO BEING POOR
OLD **REX**, THE **HUMAN**
CHEMISTRY SET!

A FEW DAYS LATER,
IN ANOTHER CITY...

**WORLD'S
GREATEST
SHOW
•
MARTINGALE
CIRCUS**

REX! REX MASON! HAVEN'T
SEEN YOU SINCE YOU WON THE
TEXAS ONE THOUSAND IN A
MARTINGALE SPECIAL!

HI, **COLONEL!** YEAH, I
WAS A HOT RACE DRIVER
IN THOSE DAYS, WASN'T
I?...I...WE...HAD THE
RACING WORLD BY
THE TAIL THEN!

GO TO WAR

YOU RECEIVE A COMPLETE GAME:

- 80 MEDIEVAL FIGHTING MEN in all battle positions, fully equipped with all the weapons and protection of the age in beautiful gold, black and silver.
- 2 ARMORED BARONS ON HORSES.
- 2 CATAPULTS—actually hurl ammunition to breach Castle walls.
- 10 BOULDERS for catapults.
- 2 GOAT HEAD RAMS—actually used to force the Castle gates.
- 2 DOUBLE DOOR CASTLE GATES—that actually open and close.
- 2 DRAW BRIDGES—that actually raise and lower.
- 1 LARGE REGAL KING'S CROWN.
- 1 ARROW SPINNER.

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BUT THE RACE IS OVER, OLD BUDDY! I NEED A PIT STOP! GOT A JOB FOR A... FREAK?

UH...SURE! I HEARD ABOUT YOUR... UH...ACCIDENT!

SAY, BUSINESS IS BAD--MAYBE YOU'RE JUST WHAT MY SHOW NEEDS!

NOW, AS THE CROWD DRIFTS AWAY FROM THE SIDESHOW...

HOW'S IT GOING INSIDE THE BIG TENT, COLONEL?

METAMORPHO
THE ELEMENT MAN

BAD, REX, BAD! FRANKLY, I THOUGHT YOU'D BE THE BIG ATTRACTION THAT WOULD SELL TICKETS! BUT IT'S NOT HAPPENING...

WE'VE GOT TO CLOSE!

CLOSE!?!
BLUE BLAZES!

I DID MY BEST... GAVE IT THE OLD GUN DOWN THE STRETCH... EVERY SHOW!

I KNOW, REX! IT'S HARD TO REVERSE A LOSING STREAK ONCE IT STARTS! I'LL GET ALONG...

LAST DAYS!
HARTINGALE CIRCUS

BUT WHAT ABOUT MY CIRCUS FAMILY--MY PERFORMERS AND FREAKS?



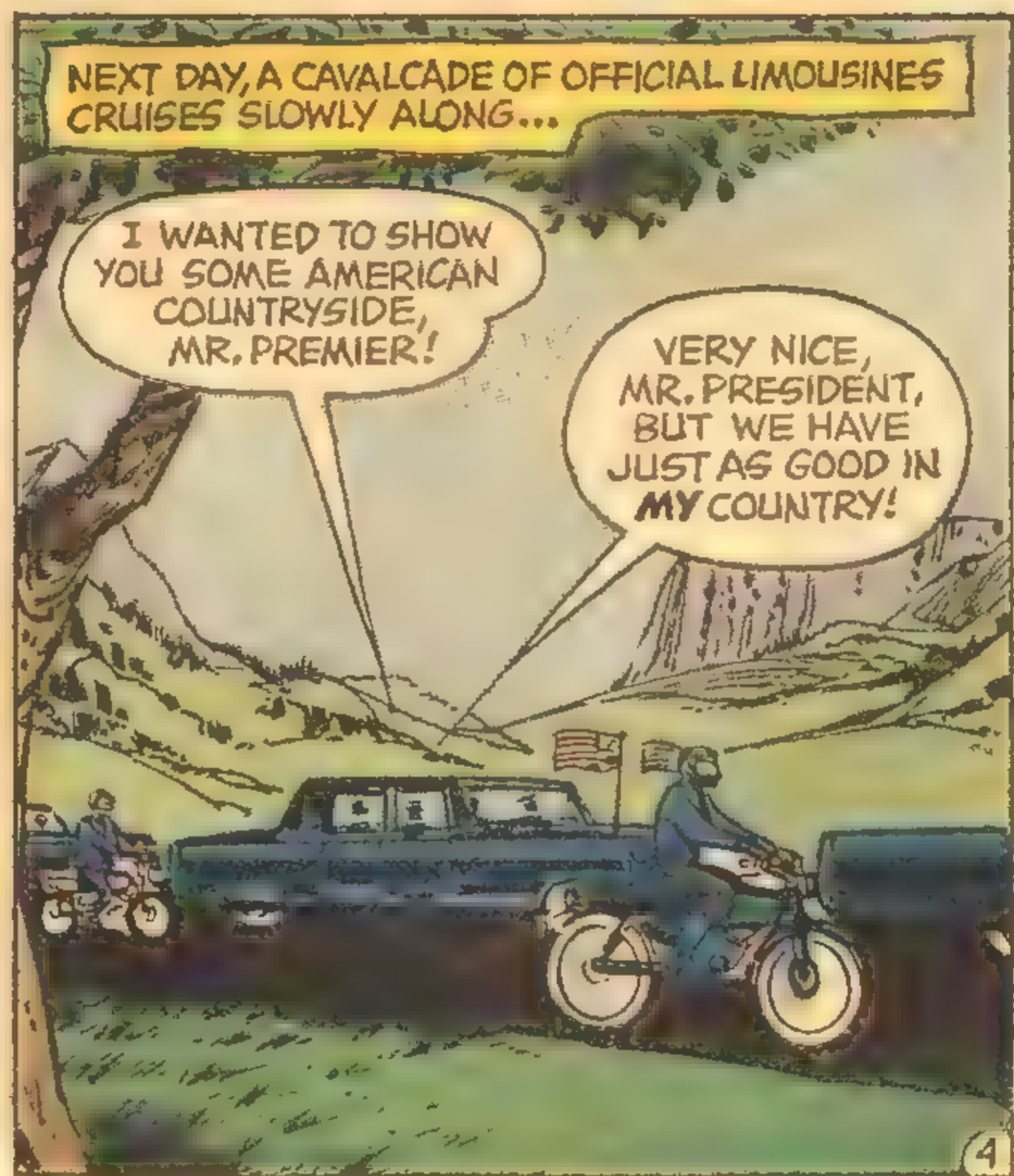
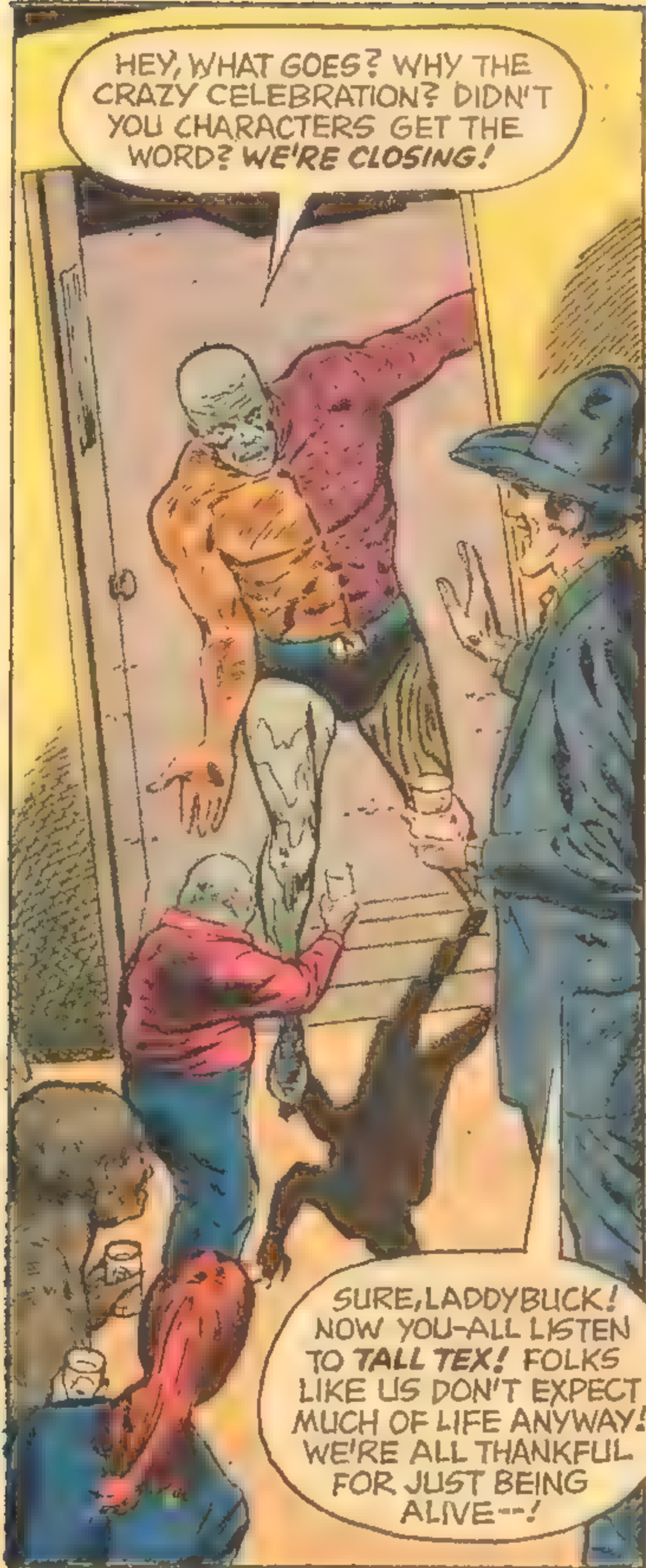
WHERE CAN THEY GO? I LET 'EM DOWN!

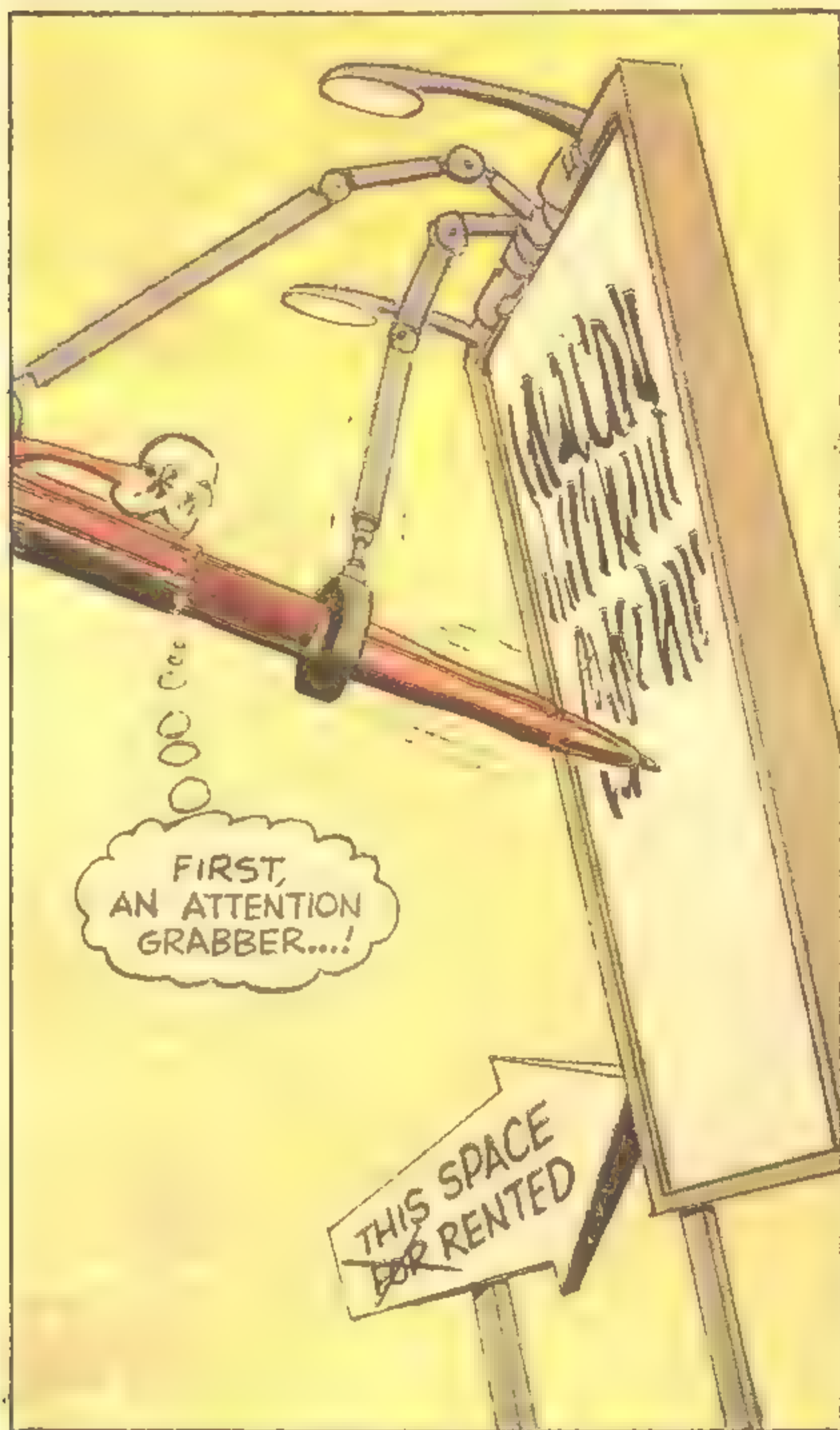
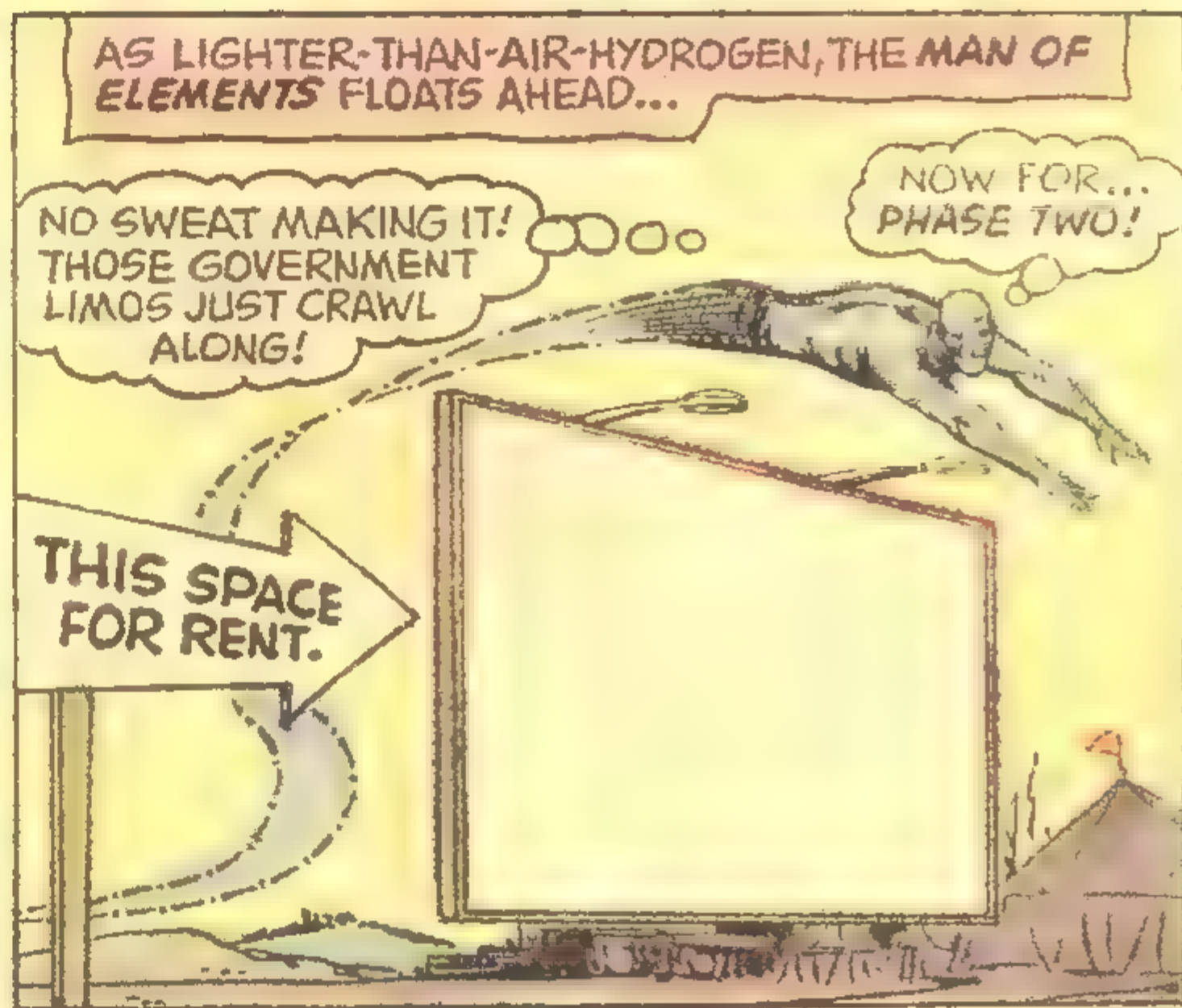
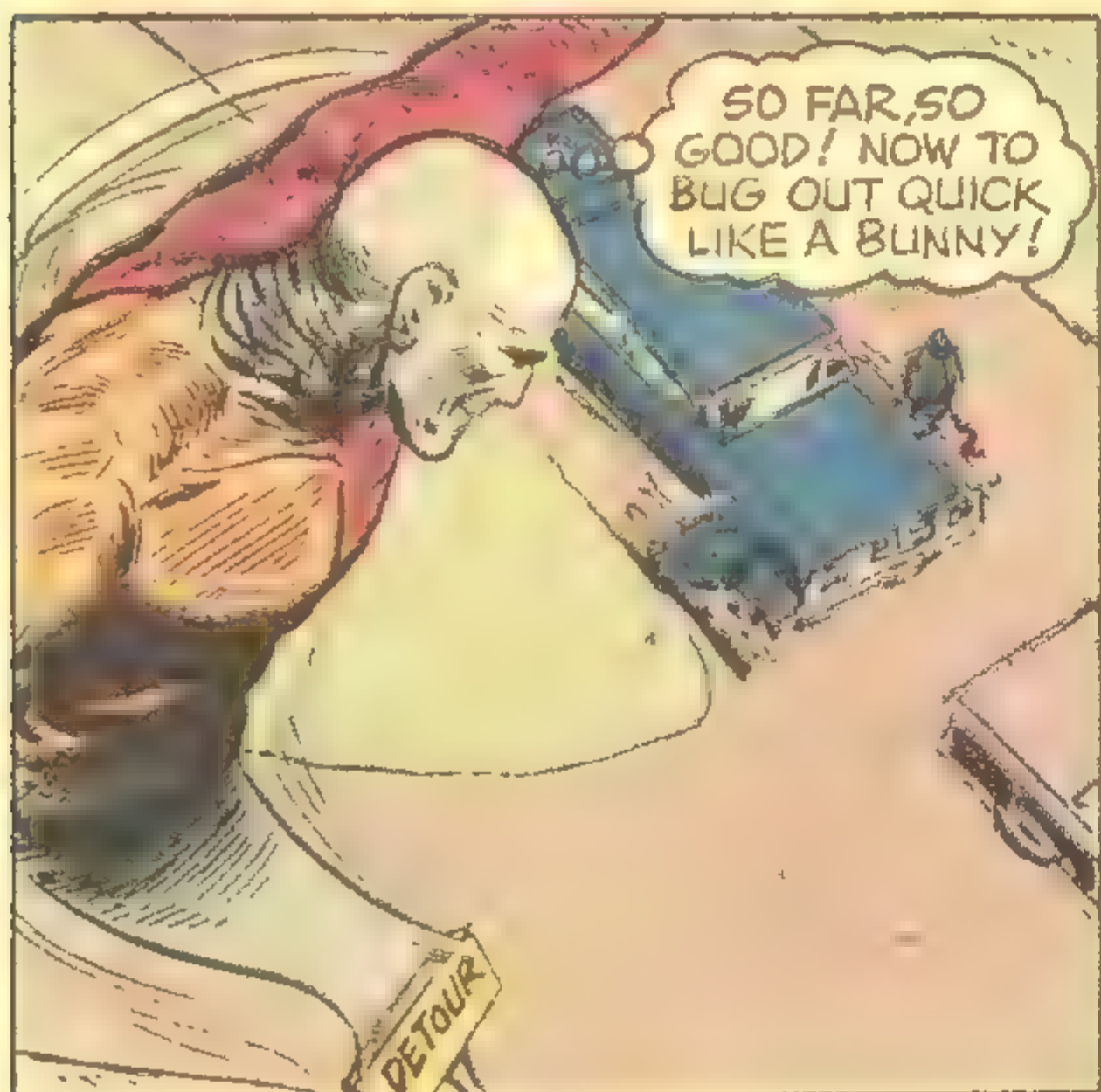
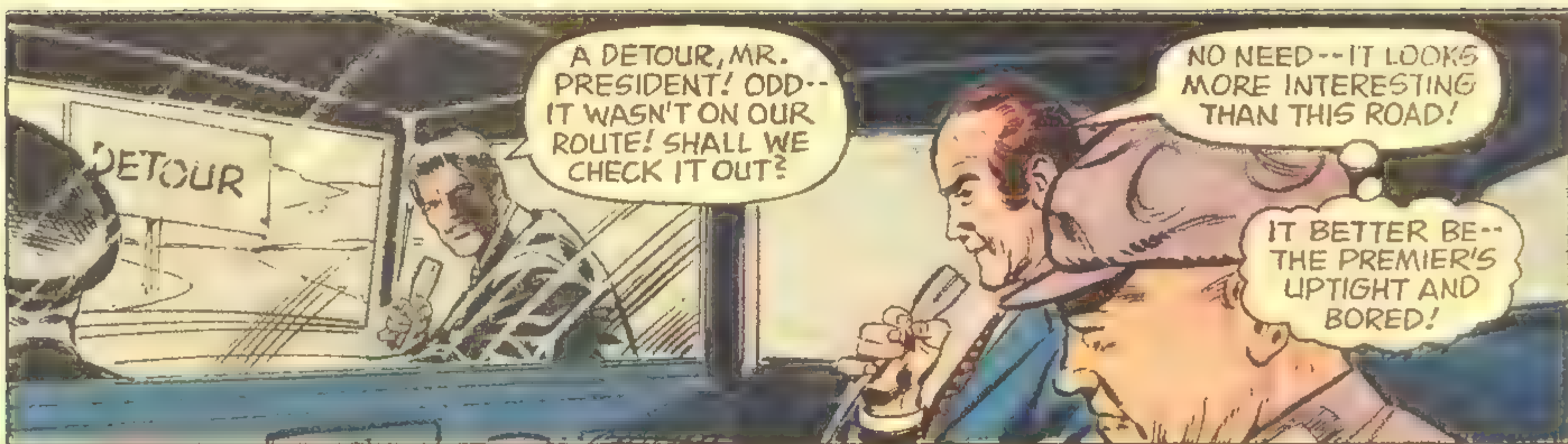
HE'S WRONG... METAMORPHO LET 'EM DOWN! I'M A FLOP EVEN AS A FREAK!

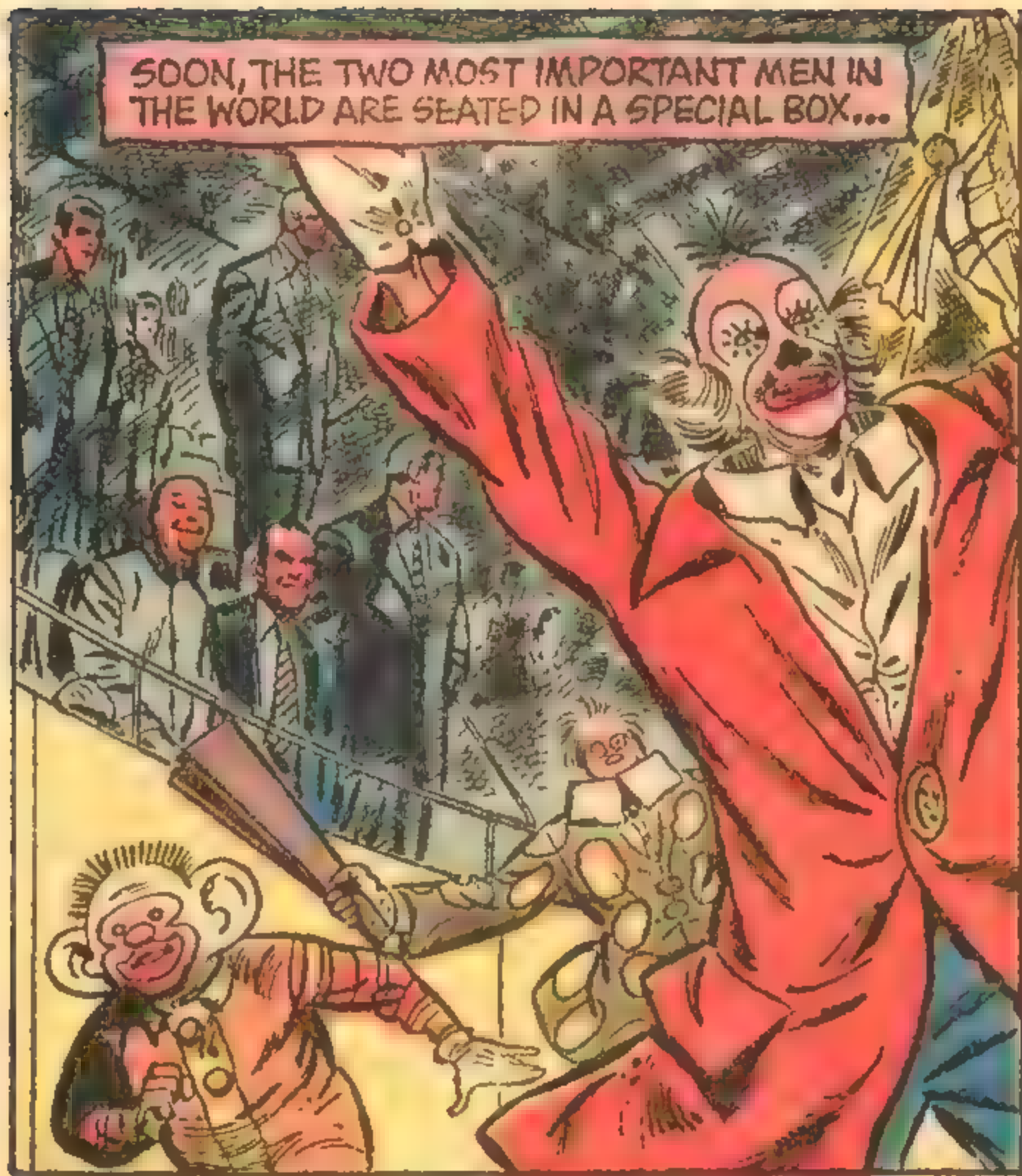
SPEAKING OF FREAKS... I'LL BET THE OTHERS ARE REALLY SHOOK UP! BETTER GO HAVE A GOOD CRY WITH 'EM!



HUHH?!
WHAT'S THIS?
THEY'RE HAVING A...PARTY?!







SOON, THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT MEN IN THE WORLD ARE SEATED IN A SPECIAL BOX...



REX, BOY. I...I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! WHAT LUCK THEY HAPPENED BY! THIS IS THE KIND OF PUBLICITY WE NEED!

YEAH, BUT IS EVEN THIS ENOUGH?



THEN, AFTER THE PERFORMANCE ENDS...

NOW...? HERE AND NOW, MR. PREMIER? WHY...WHY, OF COURSE!

MR. PRESIDENT, I ENJOYED THAT MOST HAPPILY! I FEEL BETTER--AND AM READY FOR A SERIOUS DIALOGUE RIGHT NOW!



THEY'RE MEETING HERE...IN MY BIG TENT? WONDERFUL!

YOU PEOPLE MUST STAY BACK...SO THE TALKS ARE UNDISTURBED!



BUT SUDDENLY...

SNIPER... OVER THERE!

THESE PEOPLE... I CAN'T FIRE!!



THAT NIGHT...

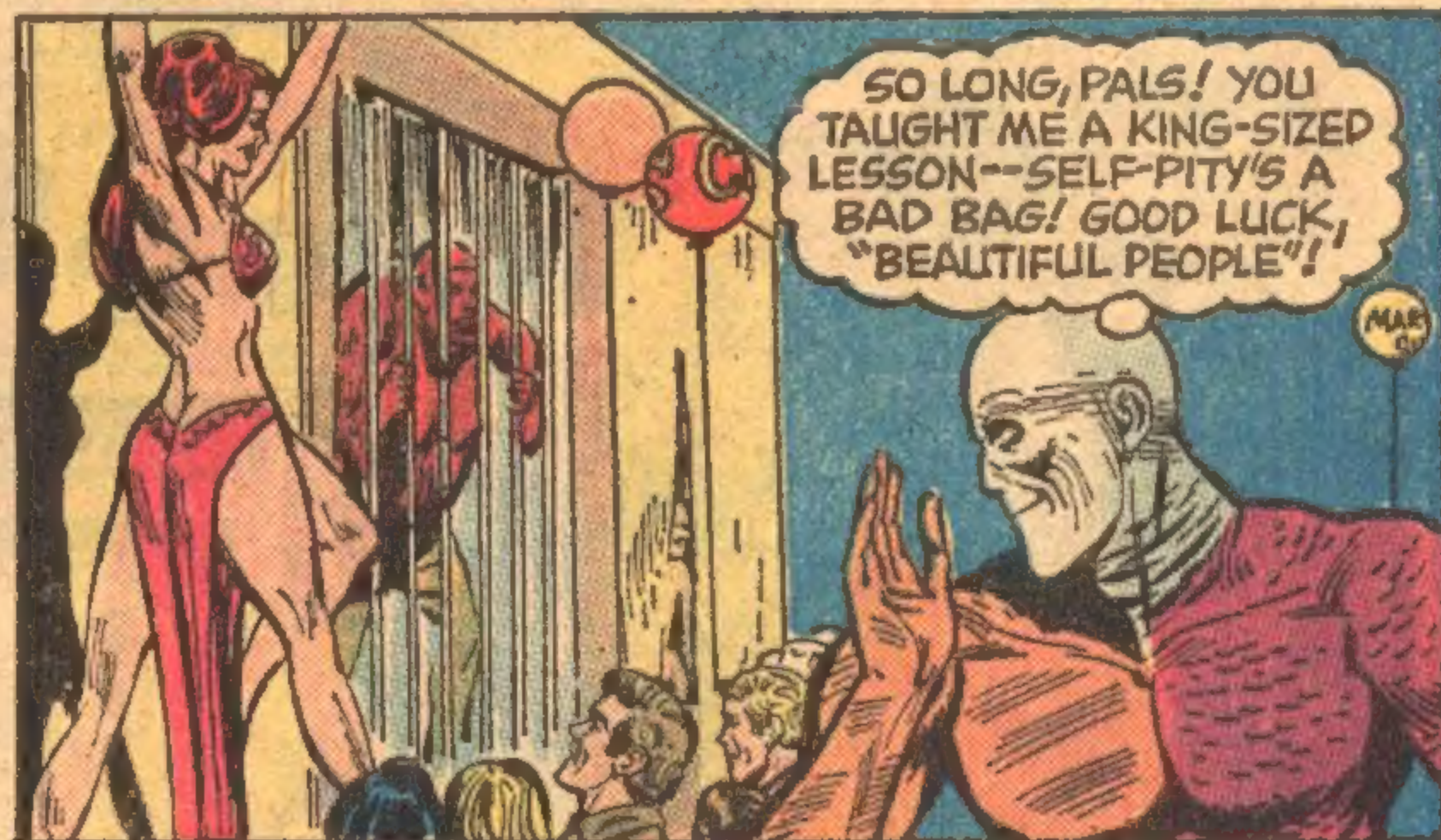
REX, IT'S INCREDIBLE! THE GREATEST PUBLICITY ANY SHOW EVER HAD! BUT I STILL CAN'T FIGURE HOW IT ALL HAPPENED?

UH...JUST FREAKISH LUCK, I GUESS, COLONEL!

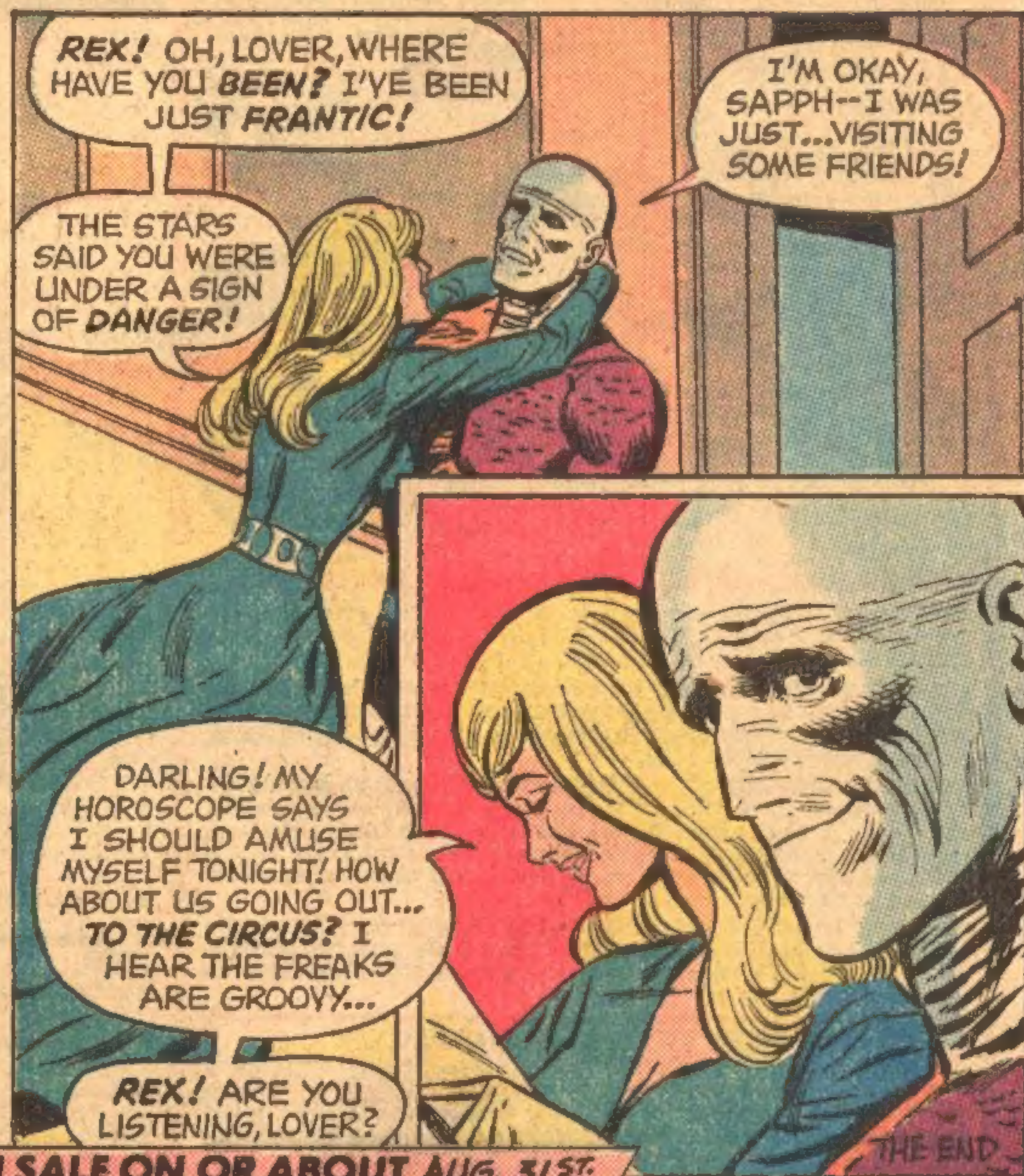


WELL, IT SURE PUT US ON THE MAP! BUSINESS IS TERRIFIC! REX, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

MY CIRCUS CAREER'S OVER, COLONEL! THANKS-- BUT I GOT WHAT I CAME HERE FOR! SEE YA, OLD BUDDY--!



SO LONG, PALS! YOU TAUGHT ME A KING-SIZED LESSON--SELF-PITY'S A BAD BAG! GOOD LUCK, "BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE"!



REX! OH, LOVER, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? I'VE BEEN JUST FRANTIC!

THE STARS SAID YOU WERE UNDER A SIGN OF DANGER!

I'M OKAY, SAPPH--I WAS JUST...VISITING SOME FRIENDS!

DARLING! MY HOROSCOPE SAYS I SHOULD AMUSE MYSELF TONIGHT! HOW ABOUT US GOING OUT... TO THE CIRCUS? I HEAR THE FREAKS ARE GROOVY...

REX! ARE YOU LISTENING, LOVER?

THE END

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EARN \$1.00 A BOX



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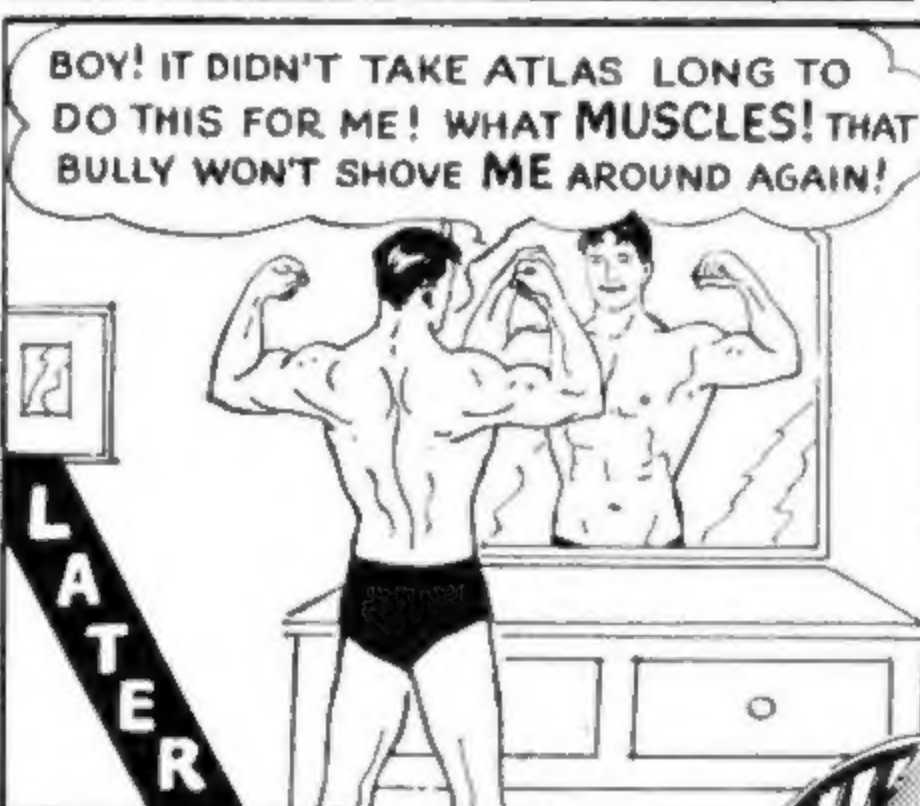
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Then I discovered a wonderful way to develop my body fast. It worked wonders for me — changed me from the scrawny "runt" I was at 17, into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man." And I can build up YOUR body the very same natural way — without weights, springs or pulleys. Only 15 minutes a day of pleasant practice — in the privacy of your room.

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quick time. Let it help YOU. Not next month or next year — but Right NOW!

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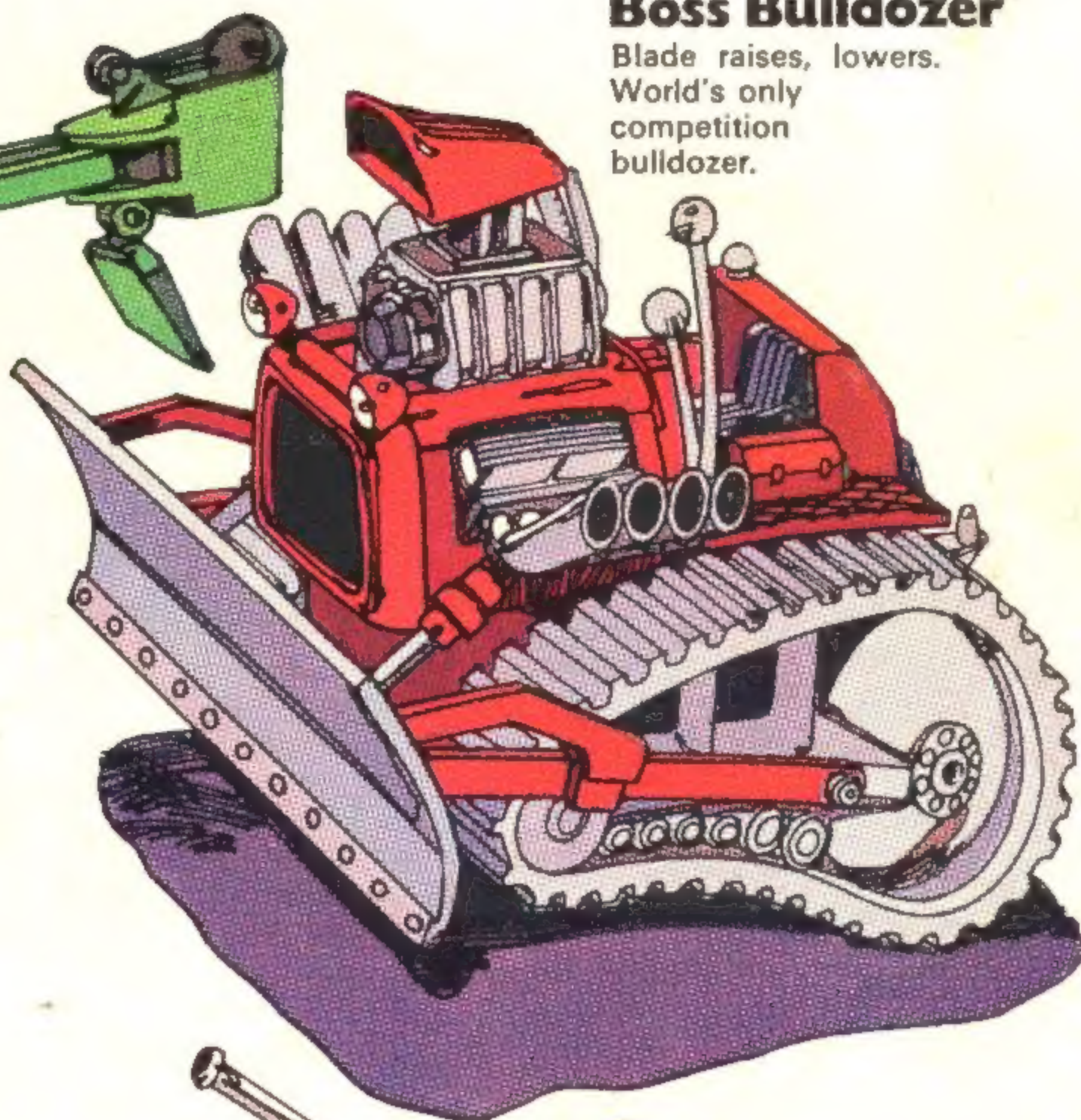
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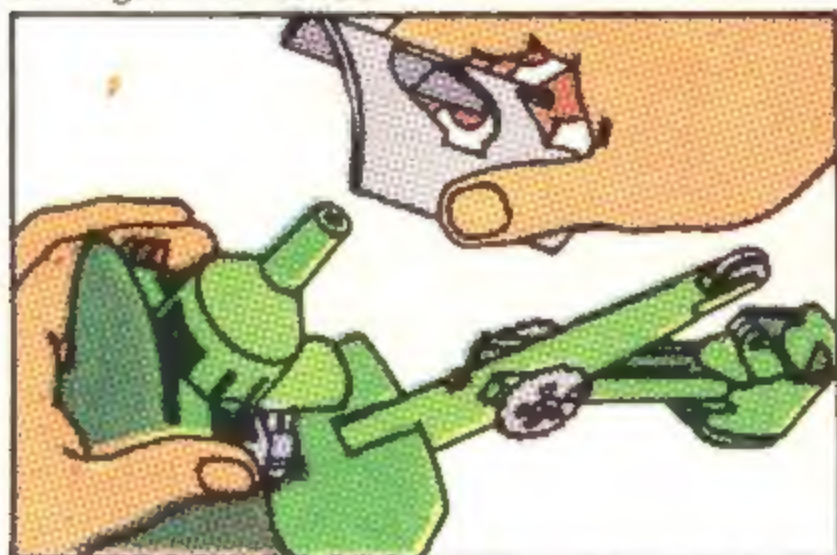


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